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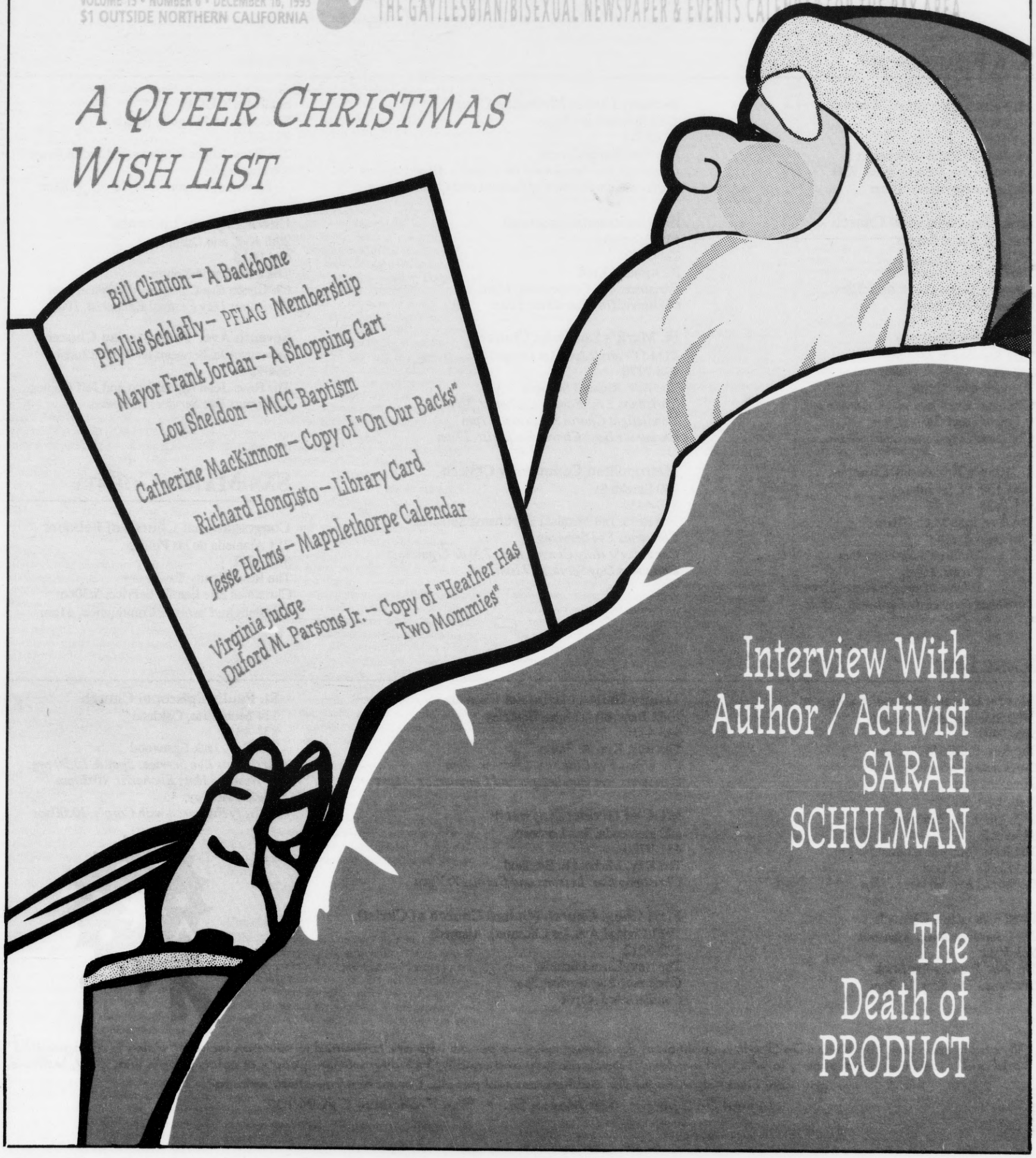
THE GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL NEWSPAPER & EVENTS CALENDAR FOR THE BAY AREA

A Queer Christmas Wish List


Bill Clinton – A Backbone
Phyllis Schlafly – PFLAG Membership
Mayor Frank Jordan – A Shopping Cart
Lou Sheldon – MCC Baptism
Catherine MacKinnon – Copy of "On Our Backs"
Richard Hongisto – Library Card
Jesse Helms – Mapplethorpe Calendar
Virginia Judge
Duford M. Parsons Jr. – Copy of "Heather Has Two Mommies"

Interview With Author / Activist SARAH SCHULMAN

The Death of PRODUCT

Come Home for Christmas

We think it's time for people of faith to speak out against the hatred and intolerance that is being directed against our lesbian, gay and bisexual sisters and brothers. Therefore, we're taking the opportunity, in this season of love, to extend a warm invitation to you to worship with us this holiday season. Times of special services are listed. Call for hours of regular Sunday services.

San Francisco

All Saints Episcopal Church
1315 Waller St.
621-1062
The Rev. Kenneth L. Schmidt
Christmas Eve Solemn Mass, 9pm
Christmas Day Mass, 10am

First Congregational Church
Post and Mason Streets
392-7461
The Rev. Roy Nyren
Saturday Advent Services, 5:30pm
Christmas Eve, 11pm

Noe Valley Ministry
1021 Sanchez at 23rd St.
282-2317
The Rev. Carl Smith
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols, 7pm
Christmas Day Communion, 10am

St. John's Episcopal Church
1661 15th St. (at Julian)
861-1436
The Rev. Juan M.C. Oliver
Christmas Eve:
Children's Service, 4pm
Carols, 10pm
Solemn Midnight Mass, 11pm
Christmas Day: Holy Eucharist, 10pm

Bethany United Methodist Church
1268 Sanchez at Clipper
647-8393
The Rev. Karen Oliveto
Christmas Eve Service for the Child in All of Us, 7pm
Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols, 11pm

Holy Innocents Episcopal
455 Fair Oaks
824-5142
Fr. Armand Kreft
Christmas Eve Celebration, 11pm
Christmas Day Eucharist, 10am

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
1111 O'Farrell Ave. (at Gough)
928-7770
The Rev. Richard Schaper
Christmas Eve: Family Eucharist, 5pm
Candlelight Choral Eucharist, 11pm
Christmas Day: Choral Eucharist, 11am

Metropolitan Community Church
150 Eureka St.
863-4434
The Revs. Jim Mitulski and Sharna Sutherin
Christmas Eve Services
Candlelight Holy Communion: 7, 9 & 11pm
Christmas Day Services, 11am

St. John's UCC
Woodside and Laguna Honda
731-9333
The Revs. Roger Ridgway and Judith Favor
Christmas Eve:
Service of Lessons and Carols, 7:30pm

Christ Church, Lutheran
20th Ave. and Quintara
664-0915
The Rev. David Rohrer
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7pm
Christmas Day Festival Eucharist, 10am

Seventh Ave. Presbyterian Church
Seventh Ave. between Irving and Judah
664-2543
The Revs. Jean Richardson and Jeff Gaines
Christmas Eve Service, 7:30pm

San Mateo County

Congregational Church of Belmont
751 Alameda de las Pulgas
593-4547
The Rev. Wendy Taylor
Christmas Eve Family Service, 5:30pm
Candlelight, Carols & Communion, 11pm

East Bay

Albany United Methodist Church
1980 Stannage Ave., Albany
526-7346
The Rev. Phillip W. Kearse
Christmas Eve Service, 6pm

New Life MCC
1823 Ninth St., Berkeley
843-9355
The Revs. Barry Wichmann and Leslie Addison
Christmas Eve Service, 11pm

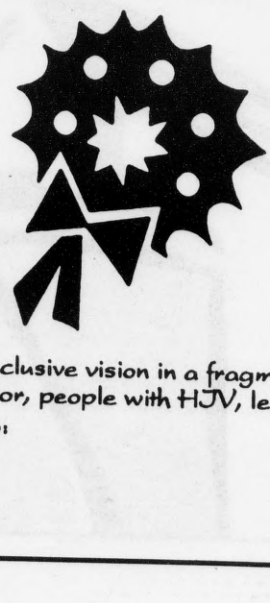
First Christian Church
2441 San Jose Ave., Alameda
523-5011
The Rev. Frances Shorrock
Christmas Eve Service, 7pm

Trinity United Methodist Church
2362 Bancroft at Dana, Berkeley
548-4716
The Rev. Kim A. Smith
Christmas Eve Children's Service, 7pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion, 11pm

MCC of Greater Hayward
100 Hacienda, San Lorenzo
481-9720
The Rev. Michael E. England
Christmas Eve: Lessons and Carols, 7:30pm

First Cong. Church (United Church of Christ)
1912 Central Ave. (at Chestnut), Alameda
522-6012
The Rev. Larold Schultz
Christmas Eve Service, 5pm
Candlelight 5:45pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
114 Montecito, Oakland
834-4314
The Rev. Jack Eastwood
Christmas Eve Service: 5pm & 10:30 pm
Festival Holy Eucharist, 10:30pm
Christmas Day:
Holy Eucharist with Carols, 10:00am



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(letters)

It's About Loving

These are hard times for queers in San Francisco. Our community is under attack from the right-wingers; we continue to lose hundreds of our brothers and sisters to the AIDS pandemic; we backstab and fight among ourselves; we have become cynical and jaded and we take living here in the Bay Area for granted. Imagine living queerly in the places we grew up. We lack direction and purpose beyond our own needs. We talk and talk but very little is done to bring each other together. Being fabulous at someone else's expense is more important than everyone having a voice.

We are constantly bombarded with ideas and images about how we are supposed to live. Buy the right clothes, be seen in the right club, have the perfect body, the right car, the correct HIV status—take the right drug. Being queer, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, etc., is not about any of those things. It is not about simply following the status quo and being complacent.

Many of our friends and lovers are hurting inside. Many of our brothers and sisters are dealing with drug and alcohol problems. They may not realize that they have a problem. Nobody, not even their supposed "friends," bothers to get real and tell them to take it easy or to get help. While no one has a right to tell people not to use drugs or alcohol, our culture and our nightlife seem to thrive on denying there is a problem and glorifying their usage. Most club promoters and drug dealers are not doing what they do for your health or theirs. The bottom line is that to them money is more important than human lives.

We already know that there is a high incidence of falling into unsafe sexual practices when under the influence. Don't beat yourself up when this happens. Reach out to your real friends, get help and make some changes. We must make informed choices about what we put into our bodies. So if you do drugs be careful, take care of yourselves and each other. Stay away from synthetic drugs and stick with natural substances. If you insist on combining drugs with sex, then always play safe and keep condoms nearby. We have a responsibility to look out for each other's well-being and safety.

So if being queer is not about doing lines of speed, then what is it about, you ask? It isn't about dick size, chest size or breast size. It isn't about money, class or position. It isn't about the Gap, BMW or living in the ghetto. It isn't about red ribbons or freedom rings. It isn't about apologizing, assimilating or living in fear. It isn't about denying our past, our roots. Remember, Stonewall was a riot not a parade. It is about brothers loving brothers, sisters loving sisters, and everything in between. It is about accepting all members of the community as part of the family. It is about fighting AIDS and talking about your feelings. It is about questioning the status quo and always asking, "Why?" What makes us special is what makes us queer. We must never silence the voices that shout out the love that dare not speak its name.

Timothy Buttercup
San Francisco

Fuzzy-Minded Tim

In his *politically correct* defense of the ACLU's action on behalf of the City's "Homeless Problem," ("Mayor Jordan's Grapes of Wrath: ACLU Files Anti-Matrix Lawsuit," *SF Bay Times,* Dec. 2) Tim Kingston reveals himself to be just another *fuzzy-minded* liberal mixing "apples and oranges." No other reading accrues to his absurd effort to equate the "Okies" of the 1930s—immortalized by John Steinbeck—with the putrid, indolent bums to whom a far-left, social worker mayor literally "gave the Keys to the City."

I grew up with, took table with, attended a two room school with and gained respectful affection for many families of "Okies" (and "Arkies") who had fled the Dust Bowl and settled in the primitive lumber camps of California's central High Sierra. A few phrases best describe these Okies and Arkies (as they and we called them, since at that time the PC "thought police" were still in the Kremlin): hard-working and industrious; clean and honest; and, *inter alia,* humble and proud—both as people and patriots. More than a few families were large (as in *nine* kids); many lived in two or three rooms, wood-frame and tarpaper cabins with wood-burning stoves, kerosene lamps and little or no indoor plumbing. Yet, whether in the snows of winter or the heat of summer, the smells from those simple houses were not of filth and human waste—they were of scrubbed bodies, hand-washed clothes and cooking you could never imagine, the best made from the least. Ultimately, the young grew and departed; the elders—many (like Hoover and Nixon) gentle Quakers—died, and, sadly, our world was no more; still, those Okies/Arkies bettered themselves and everyone else living in the then rustic and rugged Tuolomne County of my childhood.

You see, Tim Kingston, the "homeless" for whom you (and the ACLU) purport to speak could not even clean—much less wear—the bare feet and third-hand logging boots of the "Okies" I knew. And, what has your "protected class"—with its shiftless loitering, aggressive panhandling, sleeping in streets and doorways, and public urination and defecation—done for itself, the City and humankind?

Thomas M. Edwards
San Francisco

Urbanites Don't Know

Compliments to *SF Bay Times* and Tim Kingston for Tim's insightful report about last month's queer organizing conference in Wyoming ["Wyoming's Homos on the Range," *SF Bay Times,* Dec. 2]. A point made by John Preston in the same issue is embellished here: we urbanites don't always know how it is to live as lesbian, bi, gay or trans out in the hinterlands and small towns of America, but it's in those places that our most crucial battles are being fought.

It wasn't stressed in that article (because today's activists might not know about it) that rural and small town organizing in the West is not a brand new phenomenon. Congruent with the wave of anti-gay hysteria fueled by Anita Bryant a decade and a half ago, a band of gay activists based in Eugene and Portland, Ore., spent a year meeting with the handful of out gays in each of several small Oregon communities. I shared the directorship of the University of Oregon's Gay People's Alliance with Will Roscoe, then the inspiration for the urban/rural community organizing project and now a nationally recognized gay and lesbian studies scholar. Called the Oregon Gay Alliance, the project met in Roseburg, Coos Bay, Klamath Falls, Salem, Corvallis, Bend and Baker—all small towns where homophobia was rife and violence against lesbians, gays and bisexuals not unusual.

Organizers in Baker contacted us after a painful summer when a pair of lovers who had just graduated from high school committed suicide together rather than face a homophobic future. We wondered if the young men even knew about the gay communities in their town, much less those in Portland and San Francisco. A man who attended that meeting drove for an hour from his rural home—he said when he wanted to go to a gay bar he had to visit either Portland or Boise, Idaho, in either case a distance of several hundred miles.

Based on this organizing project, AIDS education and support efforts had a toehold a decade later in these sometimes isolated communities—and so have efforts against the statewide anti-gay ballot measures Oregonians have recently had to fight. In a few cases the small town activists involved are the same brave and committed people we met in 1978, having withstood burnout and harassment for over 15 years just so they could live their lives where they'd chosen to live them. Others we met then are gone—moved on, burned out or dead, out of touch with even those of us who hoped to provide ongoing contact and support.

We must never forget how many of us here in San Francisco have our roots in such places, and how many of our isolated queer sisters and brothers we left behind to come here. Organizing efforts in Wyoming, Oregon, Colorado, and all our other home states and hometowns need our support—even if we never intend to go home again. Thanks Tim, Kim and *SF Bay Times,* for recognizing these connections.

Carol Queen
San Francisco

Pro-Matrix

Re: Tim Kingston's article on the ACLU lawsuit against the Matrix program, *SF Bay Times,* Dec. 2.

Let me preface this "pro-Matrix" letter by mentioning that I have been a very active member of Amnesty International for many years; I was active in civil rights and anti-Vietnam War demonstrations in the '60s and '70s, and I have been a long-term supporter of gay rights.

I am a business opportunity broker; I sell bars, restaurants and nightclubs. My economic health and the economic health of my clients and the city of San Francisco depends upon people going out and spending money and having a good time. We are the people, among others, who are pushing Matrix. Who rules the streets? The local residents and the shopkeepers or the "homeless"?

The restaurant industry in San Francisco is in a recession. There are unarguable economic statistics that suburban Bay Area diners are no longer coming into San Francisco to eat (a 30 to 50 percent decline in the last five years).

I have had many suburbanites and tourists tell me they are uncomfortable on the streets of San Francisco. Except for Berkeley, there isn't a city in the Bay Area that would tolerate the type of street scenes that exist here.

Without Matrix, I believe the future of the City may turn into a scene from a recent visit I made to 16th and Valencia streets. I went to the El Toro Taqueria on 16th Street and there was a security guard at the door; then I went to a play at Intersection for the Arts and there was a security guard at the door there. I was panhandled five times on a one-block walk. One of the panhandlers gave me a hostile, "Fuck you." I still like 16th and Valencia and will return to the area, but most people won't.

To a lesser degree, these scenes are going on in Union Square, Fisherman's Wharf, North Beach, Polk Street and, yes, even Union Street. Who needs this?

I am certain the "homeless" lead a harder life than me and I am not absolutely devoid of compassion, but I maintain the ACLU should be putting their efforts into making sure the "homeless" can get General Assistance and hotel rooms. From there "the homeless" can be diverted into programs to handle their drug, alcohol or mental problems—or whatever other spiritual problems that are keeping them from a fulfilling life.

The "homeless" cannot remain in limbo on the streets. We have to make it so the "homeless" can take care of themselves or have them move on.

George M. Davis
San Francisco

Stealing Our Sisters' Time

On Nov. 18, I attended the premiere of Pratibha Parmar and Alice Walker's powerful new film, *Warrior Marks,* which addresses the terrifying global practice of female genital mutilation. During the brief question and answer session after the film, I witnessed a disturbing but all-too-familiar spectacle. On four occasions, men were called on by the moderator. Though one of the men, Marlon Riggs, spoke with respect, in concise, affirming remarks, the other three made lengthy remarks which struck many of us in the audience as irrelevant and inappropriate. One of them stridently proclaimed the horrors of male genital mutilation, while another spoke on and on after being asked twice by the moderator to state his question, provoking boos and shouts from the audience. The moderator then commented, "Sir, if you don't ask your question, you will witness a revolution of women here tonight. The clock is ticking."

I felt both enraged and ashamed that some men in our community, after witnessing the moving testimony to the brutality of patriarchal violence against women, would choose to dominate with their comments the precious minutes that were available for questions for the filmmakers. I saw this event as a rare opportunity to listen to and learn from women about their struggle against this horrific form of institutionalized violence.

We, as men, do need to address the violence done to us in routine circumcisions within the context of ongoing oppression in our society. We need to express our rage, confusion, shame and grief regarding all injustices which violate us, including our own genital mutilation. However, the time and place for those dialogues and for that healing is among ourselves, in our own spaces. Speaking out to address our own needs by stealing from our sisters' time only perpetuates the violence against women. When we are invited to hear their stories, let us respond, if we must, with sensitivity and respect. Most of all, let's listen. It's clear we have a lot to learn.

Andy Davis
San Francisco

Cable Car Inclusiveness

This year the Cable Car Awards and Show will mark its 20th anniversary. In an effort to improve the nominating procedures and in the spirit of inclusiveness, the Cable Car Board of Directors is advising the community of our interest in suggestions or nominations for several different award categories. We will be compiling lists of suggested

(continued on page 24)

LETTER INFO:

Deadline for letters to appear in the December 30 issue is December 23. Please type and double-space letters if at all possible. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. All letters must provide a name, address *and* phone number for verification. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters submitted only with pseudonyms, but will withhold your name on request.

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CALENDAR

Performers, clubs, individuals or groups who want to list events should mail or fax notices so that they reach us by 6PM the Friday prior to publication. We cannot take listings by phone.

Next Publication Date: Dec. 30

Next Deadline: Dec. 23

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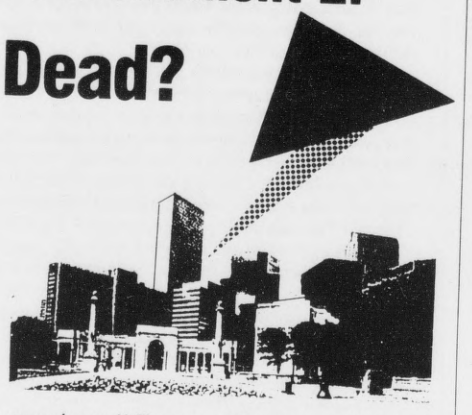
Colorado Judge Kills Amendment 2: But Is It Really Dead?

by Tim Kingston



Colorado's Amendment 2 may be offering up a few final twitches and bloody gurgles, but according to gleeful gay right advocates in Denver, the beast is finally road-kill. On Dec. 14, Judge Jeffrey Bayless declared Amendment 2 a violation of the constitutional right to equal protection under the law—the Fourteenth Amendment of the Bill of Rights. "The judge said that you cannot fence out lesbians, gays and bisexuals from the political process," exclaims an exultant Lawrence Pacheco, co-director of Equality Colorado, one of the leading organizations battling Amendment 2. "This decision is a big victory for Americans around this country. It shows that our constitution will not tolerate this type of bigotry."

Pacheco adds that he hopes Judge Bayless' decision will serve as a shot across the bow of Christian Right organizers now considering anti-gay initiatives similar to Amendment 2 in 12 states. "It makes people think twice about spending time and money on something that is unconstitutional."

"I am very pleased," asserts Patrick Steadman, president of the Colorado Legal Initiative Project—a fundraising group that backed the joint Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and ACLU lawsuit. "It is a relief to know that the judge has declared Amendment 2 dead."

Not only has Amendment 2 been declared unconstitutional, says Suzanne Goldberg, one of the Lambda attorneys handling the case, but she adds, "The court roundly rejected every single justification that the state offered for the discriminatory amendment." She says, "The state used many of the same arguments that the religious Right uses against gays and lesbians, for example, that Amendment 2 will protect children. The court stated clearly that it is heterosexuals and not gay people who disproportionately molest children." But more than that, Goldberg says, "This case has national significance, because it affirms that the basic civil rights of lesbians and gay men cannot be voted away by the general public."

Press reports indicate that Colorado state attorney general Gale Norton will appeal the case to the Colorado Supreme Court, in what will probably be a futile exercise, because it is the Colorado Supreme Court's direction that Bayless followed in his Dec. 14 ruling. Attorney General Norton could not be reached for comment.

But several of those contacted cautioned that while a victory in the Colorado Supreme Court is likely, such a decision should not be take for granted. "The [Colorado] Supreme Court has already upheld the injunction [against Amendment 2]," says James Joy, executive director of the Colorado ACLU. "Nothing is a foregone conclusion, but the odds are on our side. The next step is the United States Supreme Court, and clearly that is more problematic."

BRING ON THE TOURISTS

Almost the moment Judge Bayless's decision was announced, sponsors of the Boycott Colorado movement called odd the economic blockade. "Though the Courts have rendered a blow to Amendment 2, we know the struggle is by no means over," declared the statement ending the boycott. "We do not believe that those who would deprive us of our basic fundamental rights such as access to our governmental, political and judicial institutions for redress of grievances will stop their efforts."

Asked if perhaps it was a little too soon to start celebrating and call off the boycott, Pacheco replied, "With the Bayless ruling we are very confident that this amendment will never become law, and we need to employ other strategies to protect lesbian, gay and bisexual rights." Pacheco adds that calling off the boycott is entirely contingent on Amendment 2 ultimately being declared unconstitutional.

But Pacheco points out that while the boycott was initially successful in bringing the business sector to the negotiating table, and that it did succeed in costing the state millions of dollars in lost revenue, the best way to effect change is now to elect gay and lesbians into office. In Colorado Springs, home of Amendment 2, Frank Whitworth of Ground Zero, a human rights group formed after the passage of Amendment 2, says now that the law has been thrown out, the goal is to do education and outreach "in order to bring about a change in the community's attitudes toward gays and lesbians."

ONWARD TO THE SUPREME COURT

Although Judge Bayless' decision is a clear victory, it is not an unconditional one. Lambda's defense attorneys had argued that the gay, lesbian and bisexual communities should be considered a suspect class, that is, when cases of discrimination are alleged, judicial authorities should examine them carefully and be inherently suspicious that invidious discrimination is involved. But that was not to be, says Patrick Steadman: "Unfortunately homophobia is not a suspect motive. That is not to say it is permitted, but it is not inherently suspect."

"We wanted Amendment 2 declared unconstitutional six ways to Sunday and we only got one," adds Steadman. "We were looking to buttress that win with two or three other arguments. It is slightly disappointing, but a win is a win, and the bottom line is the thing is dead."

That is not how Will Perkins, founder of Colorado for Family Values, sees it. While expecting defeat on the constitutional issue, Perkins was pleased that Judge Bayless denied "protected class status to homosexauls. That was their whole case." Perkins asserts that losing the suspect class argument is a serious blow for gay rights advocates.

"We are very much encouraged," says Perkins. Acknowledging that the case will probably be lost on a state Supreme Court level, he says, "We are very anxious for this to arrive at the United States Supreme Court level. And unless they change the ground rules... we will be judged as constitutional. That is our opinon."

Perkins, however, is not the only one spoiling for a fight. Opinions are split among gay rights advocates as to whether the Supreme Court will ultimately hear the Amendment 2 case. Some say if the court is biased against gay, lesbians and bisexuals, it is unlikley to hear an Amendment 2 case because it is clearly discriminatory. Others think Amendment 2 is already well on the way to being a test case. National Gay and Lesbian Task Force spokesperson David Smith says, "There is a lot of apprehension about how this court will deal with gay and lesbian issues. It is a conservative court packed with 12 years of Reagan-Bush appointees." But if you talk to legal folks, says Smith, they'll tell you that going to the Supreme Court "is our best chance of victory."

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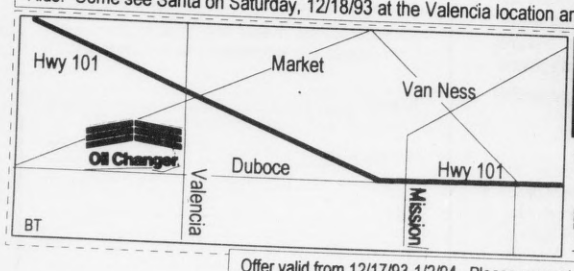

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Turning The Tables In Texas Score: Christian Right 0 — Queers/Apple Computer 1

by Tim Kingston

"We did see a victory in Williamson County," declares Kay Longcope, editor/publisher of the gay/lesbian *Texas Triangle*, adding, "Jobs took precedence over prejudice." On Dec. 7, Williamson County Commissioners reversed their openly homophobic decision to deny Apple Computer a $750,000 tax break on building a plant near Austin, Texas—simply because the company provides domestic partner benefits to its gay and lesbian employees.

While next-door Austin is relatively progressive and gay-friendly, Williamson County is not. The county is transforming itself from a conservative rural area into a wealthy conservative bedroom community. Williamson County's relationship to Austin is like that of Quentin Kopp's to San Francisco: the proud, irascable conservative alternative.

On Nov. 30 Williamson commissioners voted three to two against Apple. Initially a defeat for the gay and lesbian community, the decison quickly became a liability for the Christian Right, as the state government and business interests woke up to the potential consequences of the commissions' vote. The price was high: an immediate loss of about 700 Apple jobs and millions of dollars of future high-tech investment in Texas. While the Christian Right preened over a victory for "Traditional Values" against the "Homosexual Agenda," a significant portion of the Texas political and business establishment was preparing to come down on Williamson County like the proverbial ton of bricks.

"I think you would call this a full court press from the governor's office on down," declares Glen Maxey (D-Travis Co.), the only gay Texas state representative. "There were very few people in a position to influence this that did not get involved." Not only did the Williamson County Chamber of Commerce lobby to reverse the vote, so did the Austin Chamber of Commerce, the Texas Chamber of Commerce, city and state government officials and even the University of Texas at Austin.

Their concern was warranted because Apple was ready and willing to pull the plug. Williamson County stood to lose an $80 million facility. That meant the loss not only of all the Apple jobs, but also the loss of spin-offs—the subcontracting and the home-building and service sector employment that Apple's investment would bring.

The good news, says Maxey, was that for the first time the people of Williamson County had to think about—and take a stand against— overt bigotry that would otherwise have cut into their pocketbooks. But, he adds that "the dark side of getting people to face their bigotry [was that it amounted to] a case of huge financial blackmail. Economics drove this debate."

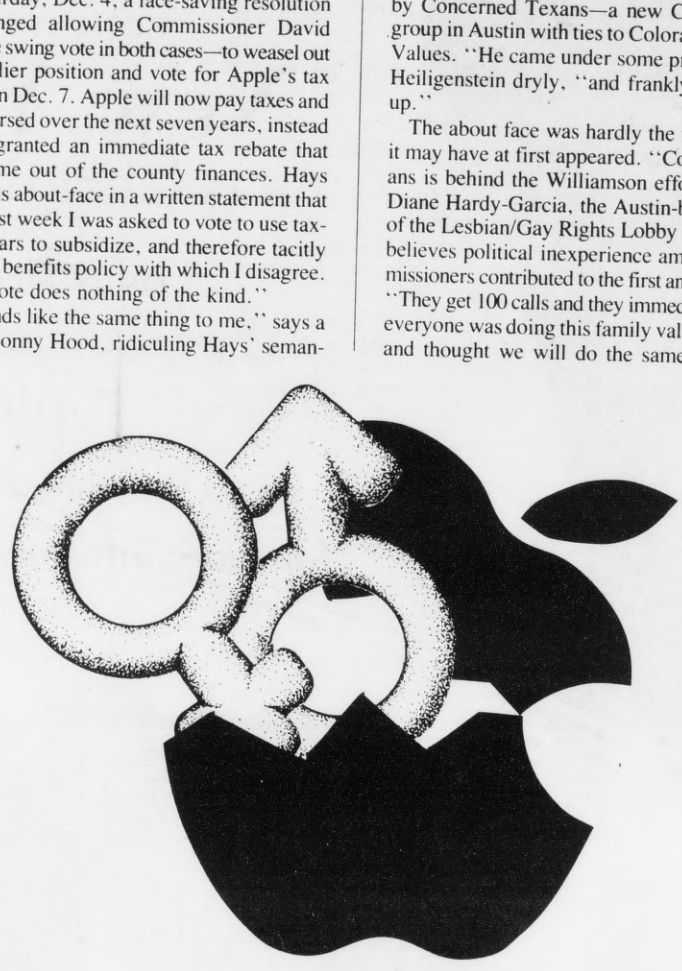
Perhaps the most critical moment of the entire affair was when Texas Gov. Ann Richards "offered" to mediate between Apple and the county commissioners shortly after the initial vote. As Sonny Hood, co-chair of the Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus, pointedly notes, "You don't refuse an offer from the governor. Just from what I know about her, she sat 'em down and had a little 'Come to Jesus' talk."

"Their refusal was really a slap in the face against her efforts to bring high tech to Texas," says Hood. "I am sure she made it clear that Williamson County would not be favored in the next legislative session." The governor's office, however, contends it was the commissioners who requested Richards' intervention.

Even Texas Republican state senators were appalled by the decision. Senator Ike Harris (R-Dallas) says, "That first vote was cast for the wrong reasons, and the [swing-vote] commissioner [later] said he wished he had not done it. It was charged emotionally, and not practically. Whether Apple is there or not, it won't change their policies—county commissioners will not have an effect on the company."

By Saturday, Dec. 4, a face-saving resolution was arranged allowing Commissioner David Hays—the swing vote in both cases—to weasel out of his earlier position and vote for Apple's tax package on Dec. 7. Apple will now pay taxes and be reimbursed over the next seven years, instead of being granted an immediate tax rebate that would come out of the county finances. Hays justified his about-face in a written statement that read, "Last week I was asked to vote to use taxpayer dollars to subsidize, and therefore tacitly endorse, a benefits policy with which I disagree. Today's vote does nothing of the kind."

"It sounds like the same thing to me," says a sarcastic Sonny Hood, ridiculing Hays' semantic gymnastics. "If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck..." But Hood was gleeful about the victory: "This is the first time gays and lesbians have had the upper hand.... I am very pleased about how Apple has kept in touch with the gay and lesbian community here and their own gay and lesbian employees... I am very proud of Apple for sticking to its guns."



Mike Heiligenstein, the Williamson County commissioner who originally proposed Apple's incentive package, was "ecstatic" about the final vote. And Apple spokesperson Bill Keegan was equally effusive: "The vast majority of people supported us. We were looking at a very vocal minority here that reared its ugly head. We are glad cooler heads prevailed." Keegan says Apple stayed in close touch with David Smith of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), coordinating media spin all through a frantic week of tough negotiations and media insanity. "We are glad this has come to a resolution. It was kind of an early Christmas present for us."

David Hays and the two commissioners who voted against Apple, failed to return *SF Bay Times* calls.

A VERY, VERY CLOSE CALL: CHRISTIAN RIGHT WINGERS NEAR COUP

Commissioner Mike Heiligenstein walked into the Nov. 30 meeting convinced he had the three votes needed for a majority to pass Apple's tax abatement plan. But in the middle of the meeting, Commissioner Hays had a sudden change of heart and voted against the proposal. Hays was later quoted in the *New York Times* saying, "If I had voted yes... I would have had to walk into my church with people saying, 'There is the man who brought homosexuality to Williamson County.' "

Hays' vote stunned observers. The decision was "a freak accident out of the blue," says Cathy Bonner, director of the Texas Dept. of Commerce. Up till then, she says, Hays had been a strong supporter of Apple's tax abatement scheme. Bonner even says Hays had written an op-ed piece backing the plan: "He all but took an ad out in the paper saying that he supported the deal!!"

What happened? Apparently hundreds of phone calls from good conservative Christians, some serious arm-twisting by Baptists in Hays' own church congregation, and a determined campaign by Concerned Texans—a new Christian Right group in Austin with ties to Colorado for Family Values. "He came under some pressure," says Heiligenstein dryly, "and frankly did not hold up."

The about face was hardly the freak accident it may have at first appeared. "Concerned Texans is behind the Williamson effort," declares Diane Hardy-Garcia, the Austin-based director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas. She believes political inexperience among the commissioners contributed to the first anti-Apple vote. "They get 100 calls and they immediately thought everyone was doing this family values campaign and thought we will do the same," she says. "They would throw away [700] jobs, because maybe three were gays and lesbians going for [domestic partner] insurance."

Williamson County is a prime target for right wing organizing, says Sean Thompson, board chair of the gay/lesbian Capital Center. "They are always using family values and traditional values to discriminate...." Christian Right stealth candidates have already taken over one school board there and fired the School Superintendent. Williamson County Christian fundamentalists were only too happy to wade in against Apple.

David Smith of the NGLTF says what happened to Hays has the fingerprints of the Christian Right all over it. Smith's analysis of their strategy is that they select the weakest link in the electoral chain and hammer away: flood the target's office with phone zaps, letters and personal contact until he or she caves in.

But Michael Brandes, a spokesperson for Concerned Texans in Austin, flatly denies his group had anything to do with the Apple vote: "There is no connection between us... That was a Williamson County deal. They have their own circumstances and we have ours down here."

When confronted with Brandes' denial, Sonny Hood groaned, "Oh, Puh-leeze!" Her sources at the commission told her that Rev. Charles Bullock, founder of Concerned Texans, drew up a phone list to badger county commissioners with demands to vote against Apple. On Dec. 3 the *Denver Post* reported that Bullock had called friends in Williamson County, encouraging them to oppose the Apple deal because of Apple's domestic partnership policy. Other Austin gay activists back Hood's allegations and say Bullock was spotted at the Dec. 7 meeting.

Bullock was out of town and unavailable for comment.

ORGANIZING A DOMESTIC PARTNERS BACKLASH

On Sept. 2 the Austin City Council passed its own domestic partnership policy, and local Christian fundamentalists have been fulminating ever since. "The minute [domestic partners] hit, people went ballistic," says Hardy-Garcia. "At the same time the religious Right has been... speculating about what to do down here." The domestic partner issue provided the perfect opening.

Despite denials from Concerned Texans, political Austinites see the vote against Apple in Williamson County as a spin-off from the anti-domestic partnership organizing in Austin. "There was some linkage," says Austin Mayor Bruce Todd. "I don't know that this would have been noticed had it not been for the publicity around that vote in Austin."

Bullock founded Concerned Texans as a direct response to Austin's domestic partnership legislation in early October. He first visited Will Perkins, founder of Colorado For Family Values, in Colorado Springs shortly after the victory of Amendment 2, well before the fight over domestic partnership began. More recently, Donald Wildmon's American Family Association (AFA) held their annual 1993 conference in Austin, where organizing a citizens initiative against the Austin law was a top priority. Kevin Tebedo, one of CFV's best known anti-gay organizers, was a star attraction at that conference. Gay organizers also say organizers for Lon Mabon's Oregon Citizens Alliance (OCA) have also recently been spotted in Austin.

Tebedo appeared in Austin this September, offering direct strategic advice and community organizing training to Concerned Texans. Hardy-Garcia says results of the trainings are already evident: "They got rid of their crazies." Instead of shrill newspaper ads screaming "Shame on the Sodomites," the right wingers formed Concerned Texans. "Now it is 'We are concerned Texans and we love homosexuals. We just want them to repent and lead healthy lives.' That," says Hardy-Garcia, "is a more sophisticated, palatable message."

Concerned Texans spokesperson Brandes downplays any connections with the AFA, OCA or CFV and Tebedo, but his statements perfectly model the strategy laid out by Hardy-Garcia. Brandes stresses homosexuality is not his primary objection to domestic partnership: It is the threat posed to the institution of marriage and the redefinition of the family that bother him. "I don't agree with adultery or fornication and homosexuality or the fact I am fat and eat too much," says Brandes. "We don't dislike people—we are not in agreement with the things they do."

When presented with Brandes' stance, Hood fired back, "He may not hate individuals, but he is certainly going out of his way to make sure we do not enjoy the same rights that he enjoys."

Hardy-Garcia and other activists also suspect CFV is giving Concerned Texans covert financial assistance. They have a right to be suspicious; in Cincinnati CFV ultimately funneled over $300,000 into the anti-gay rights campaign's coffers, but only publicly acknowledged $75,000 worth of support in the days prior to the election.

CFV's Will Perkins acknowledges Bullock visited him in Colorado Springs. He also confirms that Kevin Tebedo was in Austin for the AFA conference and that he met with Concerned Texans. "We act as a resource for states and communities addressing these issues," asserts Perkins. "We only go where we are invited." But, asked if Bullock had invited CFV to provide financial assistance to Concerned Texans, Perkins responded, "Not to my knowledge."

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS, WEIRD ALLIANCES

The Christian Right, the Republican Party of Texas and the Williamson County Commissioners found themselves trespassing on hallowed ground when they attacked Apple Computer for its corporate personnel policies. In Texas it is practically a sacred covenant that Government should not interfere with business, but the anti-Apple forces were doing just that.

"I commend the commissioners who had the courage to say that taxpayers should not be forced to subsidize behavior that many of them believe to be both immoral and illegal," declared Republican National Committeeman Ernest Angelo in a Dec. 4 press release. "That major companies and the City of Austin, among others, encourage such behavior... only shows how far we have strayed from the values of our forefathers."

Even CFV's Will Perkins did not go that far. He gruffly acknowledged the right of companies to choose their own personnel policies, but muttered vaguely that sodomy is still illegal in Texas, implying that domestic partnership is an invitation to a life of crime.

"They shot themselves in the foot," declares Commissioner Heiligenstein flatly. "It was an unwanted intrusion into local politics... It was a strategically inept move on the part of the GOP that may come up in the governor's race." Local Republican officials and their supporters were outraged by what they saw as both governmental interference in business practice and a decision that could cost jobs. Even the Austin Republican Party seemed aware they screwed up—Karen Hughes, the Austin GOP leader, tried to evade *SF Bay Times* phone calls, while the GOP receptionist feigned ignorance of the issue, laughing, "Williamson County? We don't have a Williamson County here!"

The vote against Apple was met with dismay and horror by local business, particularly in Georgetown, the county seat where the vote took place. Almost immediately phones started ringing off the hook at the county courthouse. One commissioner reported getting up to 300 phone calls a day opposing the vote against Apple. And it was the local business community, egged on by the Chamber of Commerce, that was responsible for most of the calls.

Ed Stapleton, a gay antique store and small-press owner, says he was sitting having coffee with his lover in Georgetown when strangers started coming up to him and apologizing for the vote. "We were two males sitting together and they assumed we were gay," says Stapleton. "They were adamant this did not reflect their wishes, that the commission was speaking on its own behalf and not on behalf of the business community.

Stapleton adds that, "Georgetown has a lot of antique businesses. The antique business does not want to offend the gay community."

And it was not just the Chamber or local businesses that disagreed with the stance of the commission. An Austin newspaper polled Williamson County voters and found 50 percent of them opposed the commissioners vote while 37 percent supported it. Of that 37 percent, a significant number say they opposed Apple's presence, not because they oppose domestic partnership, but because they were opposed to any further development in the fast growing county.

Eugene Sepulveda, a member of the board of governor's of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, says the local gay and lesbian community did not significantly intervene in the lobbying. "It was the bankers and businesses and realtors."

At the county commission, party lines were irrelevant. There was a Democrat and a Republican on both sides of the fence—the dividing line was homophobia. In the general community, party lines were irrelevant too, but for a different reason. A strong bipartisan effort was mounted by local and state-level Republicans and Democrats to retain Apple. The aim was to get Apple's jobs back. Meanwhile, competing offers for relocation poured into Apple's headquarters from all over the country. Even Senator Ben Nighthorse-Campbell (D-Colorado) put in a cheeky plug for Apple to move to Colorado, home of Amendment 2!

"It was one of most curious collections of philosophies working for an amiable resolution that I have ever come across," declares Art Roberts of the Texas Chamber of Commerce. "Everyone perceived the importance of jobs, and Apple was most anxious to work out a resolution... It was an unusual situation we do not expect to see repeated. As far as we are concerned the victory belongs to the people who will have an opportunity to work for Apple as a result of that decision."

VICTORY AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

The consensus among state government and business representatives is that the battle over Apple in Texas was primarily a victory for jobs and

(continued on page 8)

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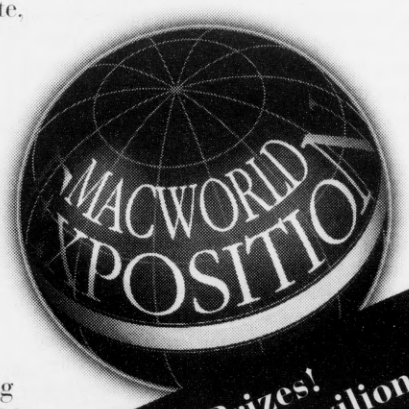

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Lesbians Hounded by Bigotry In Rural Mississippi

by Kathleen Anderson

Nationwide attention has been drawn to a lesbian couple's efforts in Ovett, Mississippi (pop. 300), to protect their 120-acre educational retreat, called Camp Sister Spirit, from a tiny, vocal pocket of hostility in the rural South. On Dec. 6, the unincorporated Ovett held a community meeting to denounce the lovers, Brenda and Wanda Henson, as threats to women and their unborn children, and to look for ways to drive them out of town. Vandalism, threats and harassment have occurred against the couple, who have been together for 10 years and consider themselves married.

Brenda Henson, 48, says she no longer feels safe at her retreat in this little town that has no mayor or city hall. She and Wanda, 39, bought the property in July, 1993, as the culmination of a seven-year effort to establish the camp to provide an educational resource that was not offered at the nearby University of Southern Mississippi. As founders of the Southern Wild Sisters Unlimited, a feminist bookstore in Gulfport, Miss., several years earlier, the women recognized a need for a crisis and education center. That gave rise to Sister Spirit Inc., a nonprofit feminist organization that helps senior citizens and those in need. Last year they collected 40,000 pounds of food for a South Coast food bank.

But local residents didn't exactly share the vision of the lesbians, and a long string of homophobic attacks began. Brenda Henson says a school bus drove by one day and "the driver honked the horn and all the little kids yelled, 'Faggot.' " The women have received threatening phone calls; strangers have appeared menacingly on their property. And then someone hung a dead dog on their mailbox.

Concern for the women's safety has reached Washington, D.C, where the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force called on the Community Relations Service of the U.S. Department of Justice to intervene. The CRS has refused to get involved, citing a legislative mandate that restricts their efforts to disputes related to race, color or ethnicity. At present the CRS cannot investigate cases relating to gender or sexual orientation. The CRS' refusal prompted the NGLTF to send a letter to Attorney General Janet Reno, stating that the women's lives are in danger: "Any delay by the Department of Justice in intervening in this explosive situation could result in harm to the two women."

The NGLTF's Robin Kane says that the Ovett case is a textbook example of the need for sexual orientation protection with federal legislation. "The Department of Justice has argued they are skilled in mediating these disputes, but they are saying that the federal government cannot move forward because it is not in their mandate. They are saying they can't protect us, but they can count us [under the federal Hate Crimes Act] once we are hurt or killed!"

THE TOWN MEETING

Over 250 people attended the Dec. 6 meeting. According to Brenda Henson, many of these people, including 19 Baptist ministers from surrounding communities, were bused in. At the meeting, public officials, such as the attorney for the Board of Supervisors of neighboring Perry County, and private citizens condemned Camp Sister Spirit, and promised to research county and state laws for a way to make the women leave. They considered invoking the state anti-sodomy law statute. They blathered bigotry: "We're dealing with something that is against nature"; they expressed fears that the women would recruit other women and little girls. Brenda Henson says the sheriff told her he would defend her rights at the meeting, but then he agreed in principle with the crowd once he arrived.

Town residents used the Camp newsletter as an example to make the Hensons appear bad before the community. The newsletter had advertised a party inviting women, girls and boys under eight. A person at the meeting interpreted this as NAMBLA propaganda, accusing the women of saying, "If a boy is 8, it is too late."

Brenda Henson says one of her accusers suggested at the meeting that the Hensons were "trying to create a haven for all the stray lesbians of the world." In her measured response, Henson says she thought of putting out a sign in front of their property saying, "Stray lesbian crossing." But, she sighed, the sign wouldn't last.

Today at Camp Sister Spirit they talk about survival—getting cellular phones, a generator if the power is cut. The Hensons intend to put up a $2,500 half mile tin fence around their property to better secure their safety. For the time being, they are using a van with a spotlight to patrol their property. Both women say they will arm themselves.

And with growing media interest, Wanda Henson says the attacks have escalated. The harassment by residents has been so successful, she says, that they can't even get the Lesbian Avengers from New Orleans to come to take a turn staying at the camp. "[We] need more people to stay so we can get some sleep," says Wanda.

FEDS TO THE RESCUE?

When the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force learned of the attacks on the Hensons, Executive Director Peri Jude Radecic requested that the Department of Justice intervene. On Dec. 7 she sent a letter making four demands: that the CRS mediate the dispute, that the FBI monitor any possible hate crimes, that the Dept. of Justice personally send a representive to the next community meeting (slated for Jan. 4), and finally that Janet Reno meet with Radecic face to face on the issue.

The CRS, an arm of the Department of Justice, refuses to become directly involved in the situation. CRS official Ron Tomalis says, "We cannot enforce or investigate. [In cases based on sexual orientation] we are barred by law." The CRS's Gail Padgett says a conciliation specialist with the agency has talked with the Hensons and informed the local FBI office of the situation. She notes that the local sheriff's office has also been notified of the federal government's interest in events unfolding in Ovett.

The NGLTF has also contacted Sen. Joseph Biden (D-DE) and Rep. Don Edwards (D-CA), who chair Congressional committees that oversee the Dept. of Justice, asking both senators to request that the Department intervene directly. Radecic has attempted for several years to expand the mandate of the CRS to include sexual orientation, but has always come up against the legislative mandate argument.

Robin Kane of the NGLTF says this is a very unusual case because two specific individuals are being targeted rather than gays, lesbians and bisexuals as class. "I am sure if many gay people were living their lives as openly as the Hensons, they too would be under siege. Unfortunately, this is not a once-in-a-lifetime experience...that the women are brave enough and out enough to draw attention to it is unusual."

Brenda Henson challenges all gays and lesbians to come out: "It's [our] invisibility that has allowed others to define who we are—that is to blame for this." She also wants people to call Reno and members of Congress to extend the National Hate Crimes bill. She would also like people to bombard Ovett with cards and letters. Wanda Henson adds she would like some women to come to the camp to better secure their safety.

The address of Camp Sister Spirit is PO Box 12, Ovett, MS 39464. (601) 344-1411.

Brenda Henson(right), 48, and Wanda Henson, 39, have been hounded by their neighbors in rural Mississippi. Photo by J.D. Schwaim, courtesy The Clarion-Ledger, Mississippi.

Austin...

(continued from page 6)

business. But gay rights advocates claim it as a flat out victory for civil rights. "The fact that we won in Williamson County, Texas—one of the more conservative places on the planet— bodes well for us. We needed a victory now and we got one," declares NGLTF's David Smith. "It is a major defeat for the right wing," he says, adding the attempts to penalize Apple for gay-friendly personnel policies "backfired in their faces."

NGLTF executive director Peri Jude Radecic believes the Williamson face-off is the first time the gay community and the corporate interests have joined forces on a major social policy issue and won. She asserts, "It extends beyond changing policies in a corporation." Radecic asserts that Apple stood up and fought for a policy they enacted for their employees. "This is a significant victory for every gay, lesbian, and bisexual person who is organizing in the workplace."

The defeat of the anti-gay forces in Williamson also points out the hypocrisy of the Christian Right, says Smith. "They want no government interference in business, as long as business does what they want." Smith asserts, "Nationally, [the victory] sends a message to other companies that this interference will not be tolerated by the business community."

Progressives may start worrying that such a victory is a double-edged sword that will serve only to tighten the grip of corporate America over elected representatives. But Austin Mayor Bruce Todd stresses that his city is interested in attracting good corporate citizens, not any investment at any social cost. "We believe that companies that locate in our area have socially responsible policies and we would not be inclined to be supportive of a company that had discriminatory policies."

In Austin, the battle over Apple will make it politically much more difficult for the Christian Right to defeat domestic partnership using their field-tested "special rights" campaign that portrays queers as asking for special preferential privileges. Instead, the upcoming battle over Austin's domestic partnership legislation has been reframed as civil rights and jobs versus bigoted homophobia.

"The message very clearly now is we don't have any room in Austin for bigotry," says Texas state representative Glen Maxey. "We have seen how bigotry can tear a community apart. The business section of the paper today is talking about the long-term harm this can do to Austin. Businesses considering locating here will have to be re-educated that we are not a backwoods community." Maxey says that in the anticipated election against domestic partners to be sponsored by Concerned Texans, it will be crucial to show that Austin is a diverse, tolerant community that takes care of its own, its employees, their families and partners. "The argument has been a real-life experience of how discrimination and bigotry can harm a community," adds Maxey. "This is a bigger battle over bigotry. The fundamentalist Christians will not run our city!"

Diane Hardy-Garcia believes that the end result has been absolute victory on every count. "It brought the whole debate onto the table. The commissioners said this will bring homosexuals to this community. The people stood up and said there are homosexuals all over this community."

She asserted commissioners got an education "that people overwhelmingly wanted the jobs and did not care about discrimination." Finally, she says, "We are told we don't face job discrimination. We don't need anti-discrimination clauses. And this [dispute over Apple in Williamson] showed just why we do need anti-discrimination clauses."

Letter From Amsterdam

Chocolate. Cheese. Civility.

After only a few weeks in this canal-crossed city, I am ready to call it home. Crammed tightly on a tiny spit of land, the Amsterdamians are almost frighteningly tolerant of each other, and of tourists.

Can't speak Dutch? Fine, they'll switch almost effortlessly to English. Not one driver has yelled at me as I ride my bike through the city, swiveling my head from side to side, occasionally careening into traffic. My behavior as a pedestrian would get me shot in either New York or Boston: Here, people offer directions. Ah, culture.

TALL, LEGGY BLONDES

Okay, it does seem to be true. These folks are tall. At the weekly lesbian dance held at the COC (Center for Lesbian and Gay Rights) my eyes are cast up as I weave my way through the packed cafe and bar. The Saturday evening event attracts a varied crowd of gals: The S/Mers take the far right corner, the more conservative girls lurk in the cafe, the trendy spiky-haired activists clutter the side near the mirror. A balcony makes for easy cruising—and what cruising there is! I'm in the midst of a gaggle of gorgeous women. Whatever their bent, these gals are dressed and styled. We are talking about a country of women who know how to flaunt and flirt.

The disco blares a house mix of Gabriella, and then A Few Good Men come on full roll, every head in the room bobbing with the drumbeat. Women are smiling and meeting each other's eyes (when's the last time that happened in a lesbian bar?) and I haven't felt this kind of hormone rush since New Year's Eve 1983.

GAY MECCA?

Stories of gay and lesbian Holland make it sound as if the God of Queerdom reigns. There's the Homomonument: A large, pink and gray granite triangle in the plaza of a prominent church, a tribute to gays and lesbians killed in World War II. There's the network of queer bars and cafes and activities and a general population that looks gay, even if they're not.

But the strange thing is that, despite the tolerance, there's still homophobia. It's the insidious kind, the kind that's hard to legislate against. I hear from my hairdresser (yes, they're straight here, just to throw you) that he can't quite figure out why gay men "talk that way." A friend tells me that her mother has never talked to her about being gay, that her grandmother doesn't know. I travel into the countryside with another friend who says being gay in the smaller cities is not really "OK."

It seems that Holland has been able to legislate rights but not necessarily attitudes.

THE BUREAU OF BUREAUCRACY

And legislate they do. There are laws and controls on everything in this country, including how many rooms you are allowed to live in. No joke. If you are under 30, you can rent an apartment with two rooms (living-and bedrooms count). If you are over 30, you can add another room (study, dining room, etc.). Every room in the city is recorded and counted, and if you want to rent, you apply for a certain number of rooms. Even if you have bucks, you can't get a bigger house than you are allotted. Housing is tighter here than in New York City (but no cockroaches, only occasional rats from the canals).

It's true what they say about squatting, but even the squats have been tallied and counted. Those who were lucky enough to get squats before the big census are now paying the government a tiny rent for their found treasures. Of course, a black market in housing flourishes and scams abound. The Dutch are resourceful.

But what about the man who comes to check on you when you call in sick? Yes, controls are tight. You've got to be home, girlfriend, when you take a sick-o day. (Who would have thought?) The guy comes 'round, checks you out and then records whether your demeanor is indeed pale enough to pass. A friend looked like hell when the sick man came calling (not because she was sick, but rather, sick of work) and the guy gave her an extra day free. The next day we went to the movies.

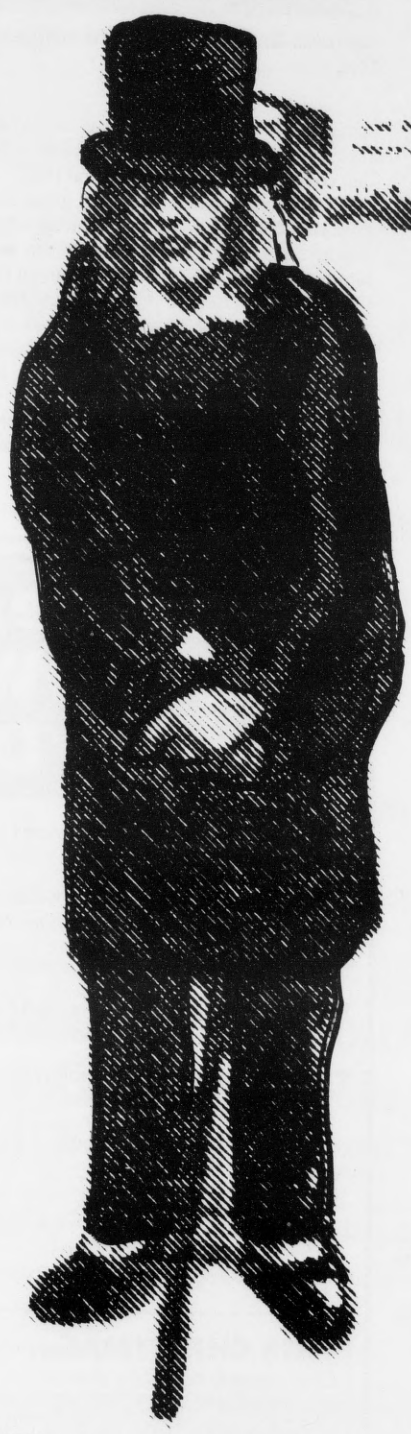
VROUWEN ONLY

If gay men and lesbians ever mix, I haven't seen it. The women's bars are definitely women-only. Saarein, a cozy, neighborhood kind of place, has a sign outside that essentially says it's a women-only place. The Clit Club is definitely women-only. The COC has mixed nights, but only men go to them. I asked several gals about the girl-boy split, about whether they had gay male friends, and most looked at me like I was crazy. One journalist explained that the gay men in Holland have the same attitudes as straight men, so why would you be friends with them? "I'd distrust men who wanted to be friends with me," she said, reminding me of my life as a 22-year-old separatist. The one gal who did fraternize with the opposite sex was involved as an AIDS buddy.

DUTCH TREAT?

Time flies when you're having... sex? No, but I did partake in a make-out session with a gal who later introduced me to her girlfriend of 13 years. (Tolerance, remember?)

At the end of a month I am not quite ready to return stateside. There's a part of me that says: "Stay, become part of the expatriate lesbo gang that meets for American holidays and Dutch tutorials." After my last night at the COC, I walk home across the city at 2 am—a walk without fear—past the red light district, past the guys selling drugs on the street, and I climb the three flights of stairs to my little downtown apartment for the last time. I'm going home to get on with my life, but right now I don't know what that means. I only know I'll be coming back here. ✿



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Term's Up and Wong's Out:

Jordan Replaces Critics At Human Rights Commission

by Tim Kingston

Mayor Frank Jordan doesn't seem to like it much when his human rights commissioners are too outspoken about human rights. It certainly didn't pay off for Lawrence Wong, the mayor's first gay appointee to the San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC). Wong has recently been sharply critical of Jordan's policies: He vocally criticized the homophobic comments that led to Rev. Eugene Lumpkin's dismissal, for example. Wong has also attacked Jordan for vetoing Supervisor Tom Hsieh's resolution that condemned the anti-immigrant hysteria now sweeping California.

And on Dec. 2, Wong paid the price for his outspokeness. Both Wong and Karen Kai, who chairs the HRC, were abruptly informed that they were not to be reappointed as commissioners. On Dec. 3, the Mayor's office announced who would replace Wong and Kai—longtime Asian community business activist Calvin Louie and Earl Rynerson, a gay businessperson who has worked with the United Way and the Big Sisters/Big Brothers network. Rynerson is a largely unknown quantity in the City's human rights and civil rights community.

Wong retaliated with a Dec. 6 City Hall press conference blasting the Mayor. Backed by Supervisors Angela Alioto, Terence Hallinan, Tom Hsieh and Carole Migden, Wong accused Jordan of creating an "atmosphere of intimidation [that] will have a chilling effect on the Human Rights Commission." (Supervisor Susan Leal shared Wong's concerns, but was unable to make the press conference.) Wong also charged that the Mayor reneged on campaign promises to appoint independent commissioners who would speak their minds, citing a *Sentinel* interview with Jordan conducted during the Mayoral race.

Lawrence Wong spoke at a press conference to protest his removal from the Human Rights Commission. Photo by Rink.

Wong's outrage is a bit ironic, given the enthusiastic backing Wong gave Jordan when he was first appointed to the commission, say sources familiar with the HRC. Former Human Rights Commissioner Lenore Chinn suggested that "perhaps Lawrence Wong thought that support was reciprocated and it was a mutual thing. He may be very disappointed [that] that is not necessarily true."

(Wong, however, denies being a Jordan supporter, saying he backed Tom Hsieh for mayor, not Jordan.)

Karen Kai, former commission chair, said what bothered her most about the decision was that the Mayor did not consult the commission. "[HRC director] Ed Lee was not contacted about my performance. Several other commissioners said they were shocked and disappointed [that] they were not consulted either. You hurt an agency by going in and just doing things. That seems to be OK by the Mayor's office, and that is a bad sign." Ed Lee was not available for comment.

Chinn says the decision not to reappoint the commissioner signifies a larger problem with the Jordan administration. "I don't think Frank Jordan has the sensitivity to human rights issues that his predecessor had.... To have both Lawrence

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Wong and Karen Kai removed, it signals that there is even less of a concern to the issue of lesbian/gay rights and immigration."

EJECTION TALES

Noah Griffin, Jordan's press secretary, argues that Wong's replacement at the HRC is not an issue of free speech or human rights, but of simple politics. "The Mayor has a right to appoint people who reflect his views. No one has a right in perpetuity to any position on a commission ... appointed by the Mayor," he said. "That is the way politics works."

Griffin reinforced the perception that Wong's statements on immigration and Lumpkin "probably contributed" to his removal from the HRC. But Robert Oakes, the Mayor's liaison with the gay community—the man who told Wong he was no longer on the commission—offered contradictory reasons for Wong's departure.

Oakes told *The SF Bay Times* that the Mayor said Wong's statements about immigration and Lumpkin were not the reason Wong was taken off the commission. But then Oakes said exactly the opposite to Stephen Takamura, co-chair of GAPA (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance), shortly after speaking to the *SF Bay Times*.

Oakes phoned Takamura to say the decision to remove Wong was made four months ago, just when the Lumpkin affair was heating up. "What added to that was Wong's immigration stance and rumors about the HRC taking on the Matrix issue," said Takamura. "They saw him as taking the lead on that." Takamura said Oakes added that a factor which contributed to Wong's removal was Jordan's need to create empty commission seats to fill with supporters who backed Jordan in the Mayoral election.

BRING ON THE NEW BOYS

Oakes' denials notwithstanding, it is clear Wong was dismissed from the commission because he disagreed with Mayor Jordan. What does that mean for Earl Rynerson, the new gay commissioner?

Asked if he will be beholden to Jordan, Rynerson replied, "I am my own man. I will not be beholden to Frank or any other group or individual. I come with a clean slate, an open mind and a willingness to work with everyone." Rynerson added, "I am an independent cuss and I will do what I think is right.... I think the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities will find I am independent person."

For the first few months at least, though, Rynerson says he plans to keep his mouth shut and his eyes open. He did offer his opinion of the Lumpkin fiasco, however, saying that he would probably have spoken against Lumpkin's comments also. "It was inappropriate for him to make the statements he did," said Rynerson. "I recognize that everyone has a right to express their opinions, however the degree to which one expresses one's opinion must be tempered by the position you hold."

Asked how he would deal with either immigration or the Matrix program—currently two of Jordan's hottest political potatoes—Rynerson quickly begged off. "I could express my opinions, but I don't think that is appropriate... In this position you cannot make an opinion until you have met with all the groups and come to some sort of consensus about that, and then make a statement."

While Rynerson's comments offer hope he will be an independent voice at the HRC, the way his appointment was announced by the Mayor's office does not indicate that the admininstration is putting gay and lesbian concerns on the front burner. In the initial press release, the mayor's office forgot to mention—or did not know—that Rynerson is gay. Room 200 had to rush out another release adding that Rynerson is "a member of the City's gay and lesbian community." Either way, it is a slip indicative of the mindset and priorities of the Jordan administration. ✿

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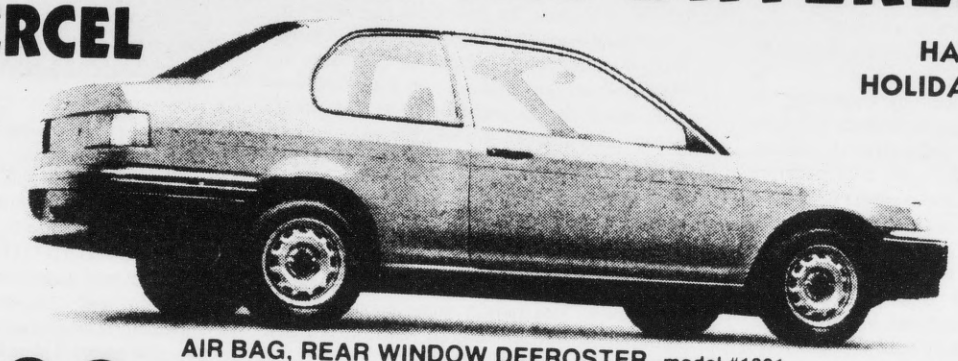
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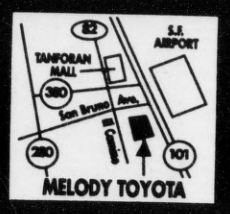

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Surviving "The Twilight Zone Of Medicine:" Jeff Getty's Life Depended On an Experimental Treatment; Did Greed and Medical Politics Nearly Stop Him from Getting It?

by Bruce Mirken

In early September it looked like Jeff Getty was going to die. The 36-year-old Oakland resident's immune system was so devastated by AIDS that his CD4 cell count had dropped to the 15-20 range, a number so tiny as to be essentially insignificant. Chronic pseudomonas, a lung infection, was dragging him down slowly but surely, and the antibiotics being used to treat it weren't working. Constant fevers and fatigue left him capable of only the most minimal activity. It looked like the beginning of the end.

Now as the holidays approach, Getty is up and around again, feeling better than he has in months, and the pseudomonas is in full retreat. He credits his survival to an experimental treatment that—he and others involved charge—greed, bureaucracy and medical politics nearly stopped him from getting.

Getty is a longtime member of ACT UP/Golden Gate's Treatment Issues committee, well connected in AIDS medical and research circles, and often in a position to hear news or speculation about new treatment ideas. One of the ideas he heard "being tossed around," he remembers, was the idea of combining intravenous gamma globulin treatments with infusions of white blood cells from a healthy, HIV-negative sibling in the hopes of jump-starting an AIDS-depleted immune system.

Two people he knew who had some interest in the idea were Dr. Alan Levin, the sometimes controversial physician perhaps best known for his involvement in the 1989 "underground" trial of Compound Q, and Curtis Ponzi, a San Francisco attorney with a long history of involvement with AIDS issues and currently a member of Project Inform's board of directors. "So I called Levin and Ponzi," Getty recalls, and after going over his medical situation in some detail and consulting with his regular physician, Dr. Virginia Cafaro of the Conant Medical Group, "we decided to start in on it."

It was, he says, a fortunate combination of a doctor nervy enough to try something relatively new and unproven, and a knowledgeable patient without many other options who was willing to say, "let's do it." And at that point, having thoroughly run the course of conventional treatments, Getty's doctors didn't have much else to suggest. "The only other option they were offering me," he remembers, "was, 'Get your affairs in order.'"

The proposed treatment would definitely be an adventure into little-charted territory. Although there are now several published studies documenting the usefulness of gamma globulin infusions in AIDS treatment (reducing the number of opportunistic infections and improving the patient's general health), there is very little such data about white blood cell transfer between siblings.

There have been a few promising tests involving identical twins, but identical twins are, in medical jargon, "HLA (human leukocyte antigen) matched"—that is, when cells from one twin are given to the other, the recipient's body doesn't recognize the new cells as foreign invaders, and vice versa. This means that the potentially dangerous reactions known as "graft-versus-host disease" (in which the new cells attack the recipient or host) and "host-versus-graft disease" (in which host's immune system attacks the new cells, similar to "rejection" of an organ transplant) don't occur.

But when the donor cells come from anyone other than an identical twin—in Getty's case, two sisters were potential donors—the best you can have is a partial HLA match. In such an "allogeneic" cell transfer, some amount of graft-versus-host/host-versus-graft reaction is much more likely, and could be serious.

But, notes Dr. Levin, the host-versus-graft reaction can also be "a potent booster of the immune system." What should happen, essentially, is that the host's immune system destroys the new cells and then cannibalizes the components of those cells—"sort of like eating very nutritious food," Levin explains—giving the patient's immune system a boost.

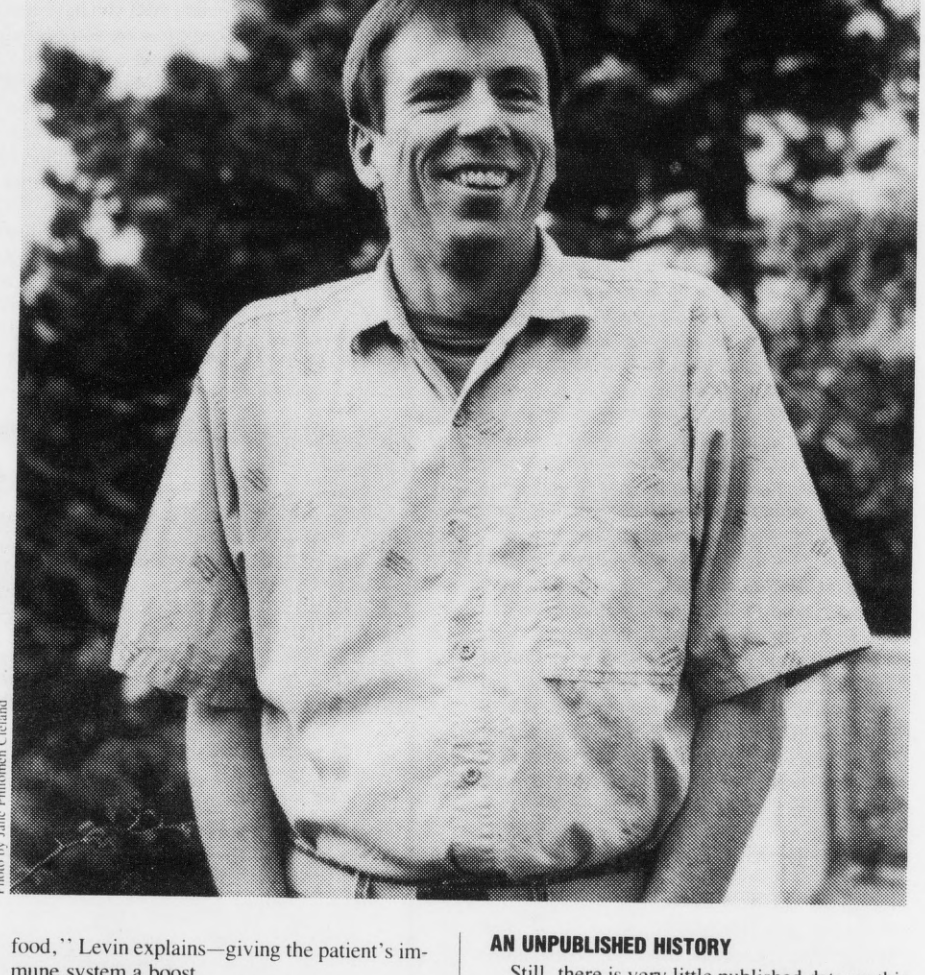

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

More directly, it was hoped that the new white blood cells, which would include all the basic components of a healthy immune system, would attack the bacteria in Getty's lungs, bringing the pseudomonas under control.

Levin was convinced the dangers were minimal. "There's never been a graft-versus-host reaction reported in an HIV-positive patient," he explains, except in cases where some other circumstance, such as chemotherapy, had caused additional damage to the patient's immune system. In the early years of high-dose AZT, he points out, thousands of patients got blood transfusions without problems.

AN UNPUBLISHED HISTORY

Still, there is very little published data on this type of procedure in AIDS patients. That is not to say, however, that no work on allogeneic cell transfer has been done. Stephen Hauptman, M.D., of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, did white cell transfers on a number of patients in the mid-eighties with results that those who have seen his data describe in terms such as "intriguing but not conclusive." Hauptman's work was never published— in part, some speculate, because scientific interest at the time was focused almost entirely on antiviral drugs rather than on immune-based therapies.

Hauptman will say very little on the record about his past work, except to emphasize that

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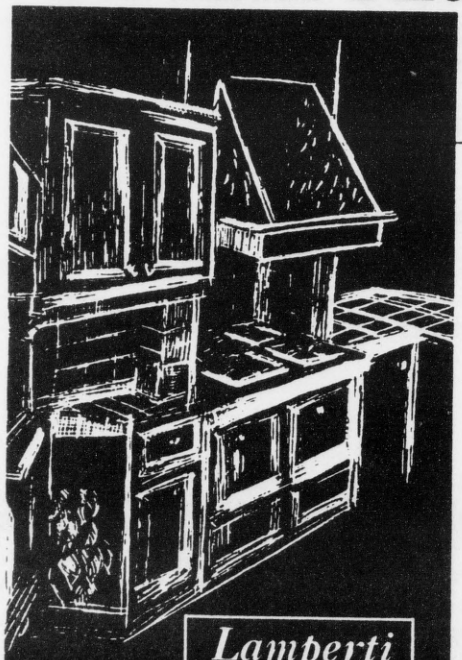

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"we're not sure if we have anything that's enticing." Still, he remains interested enough in the idea to be doing further work on it, adding that it will be about six months before he has results he can discuss.

Doctors from the Center for Special Immunology (CSI), a chain of private AIDS clinics with offices in Irvine, California, Ft. Lauderdale and Miami Beach, Florida, and Chicago, gave a somewhat controversial report at last summer's International AIDS Conference in Berlin about their white cell transfer work. They described their procedure as "safe and well-tolerated" and said it showed some signs of effectiveness—a characterization that drew considerable fire from those who felt that CSI had glossed over the significance of the deaths of three patients in their study.

The subject of allogeneic white cell transfer has also come up in the series of Immune Restoration Think Tank meetings convened by Project Inform over the last 18 months. "We've seen some fairly compelling results," comments Project Inform's Brenda Lein, adding that further research is being done.

Overall, although there wasn't a lot of solid data to go on, Dr. Levin was convinced there was good reason to give the idea a try and that the risks were fairly minimal. So, on Sept. 14 Getty was admitted to UC San Francisco/Mount Zion Medical Center, blood was drawn from his sister and the white cells separated out, and final preparations for the first infusion were begun.

BUREAUCRACY AND BUSINESS INTERVENE

That, it seems, is when complications—not of the medical variety—began to arise. Attorney Ponzi, who handled many of the discussions with Mt. Zion, says that at first the hospital had told him and Dr. Levin that the protocol would not need to be reviewed by an Institutional Review Board, a neutral body set up to monitor the safety and ethics of clinical trials of experimental drugs or medical procedures. The reasoning, he says, was that the procedure was simply "a transfusion of an unaltered blood product," in many ways not unlike a common blood transfusion.

But suddenly, Ponzi says, the tune changed. As Getty was being prepared for the procedure, the administration at UCSF/Mt. Zion apparently decided the procedure did need IRB approval, a requirement that Ponzi says "was dropped on us at the last minute."

"There was a lot of politics," Levin complains.

(continued on next page)

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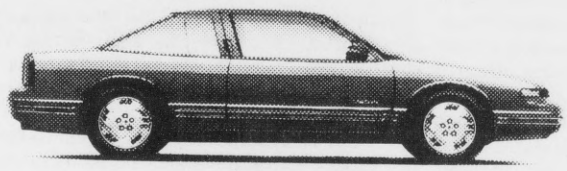

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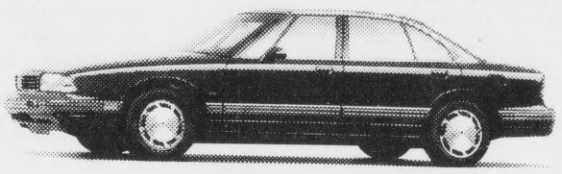

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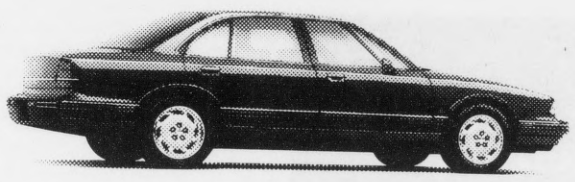

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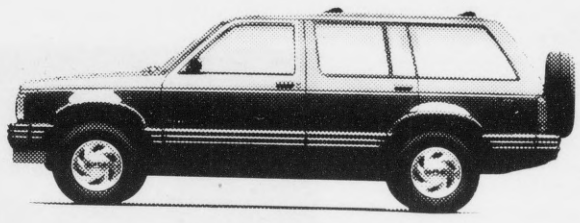

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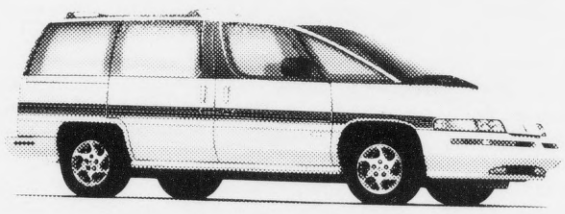

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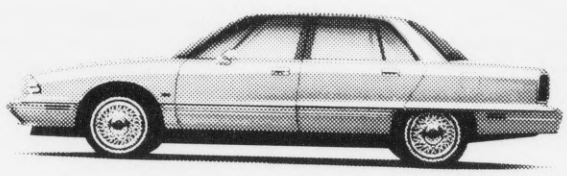

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"We had jumped through the appropriate hoops, and every time we jumped through one hoop they wanted another hoop." With the patient already set up and ready to go, Levin simply went ahead. "Eventually," he continues, smiling broadly, "they came up and said, 'You can't do this.' And Jeff said, 'It's already done.' "

Levin says firmly that there was "absolutely no good scientific or ethical reason" to require IRB approval for the procedure, and that the sudden objections came primarily because he has been an outspoken and sometimes controversial figure. "I'm not politically correct," he says.

Officials at UCSF/Mt. Zion flatly refused any specific comment on the matter. Chief of Medicine Dr. Kenneth Woeber offered only a general statement that "it is normal hospital procedure to have an Institutional Review Board approve any experimental treatment before it is used at UCSF/Mt. Zion Medical Center," adding that "it would not be ethically appropriate to discuss the case of a specific patient." A faxed note from *SF Bay Times* pointing out that the patient had already discussed the matter on the record and had specifically urged us to contact Dr. Woeber received no response.

But it wasn't just the hospital administration that seemed to be getting in the way. A business deal between doctors dating back three years now appeared to threaten the procedure.

The day before the infusion was to take place, Levin received a letter from attorney Erica Wilner Rosenblatt, representing Dr. David Senechek, a partner in the medical group located at 450 Sutter, Suite 1400. Levin had sold his interest in the group to the late Dr. Larry Waites effective November 1, 1990, and the buy-out agreement included a "non-competition" clause in which Levin agreed not to practice HIV medicine within 30 miles of San Francisco for five years. The letter demanded that Levin immediately "cease and desist" from practicing HIV medicine.

"They claim that I'm competing with them, and I signed a no-compete [agreement]," Levin says of the letter. "But Jeff went to them and they wouldn't do it... So then I did it and they come after me, they wanted me to stop."

Getty was, to put it mildly, upset at what seemed like an attempt to stop his treatment. "I ended up in a fight with them to allow this man to tell me the information that he knew," he bristles, "and to help me with my project. And they basically tried to stop him because he had a non-compete clause."

"That's not right," he continues. "You can't divide patients up into little fiefdoms... When somebody has knowledge and information that could save your life, you don't want to put up with somebody's legal contract trying to censor the person you're dealing with."

For Getty, who had good reason to feel the white cell transfer might be his only shot at avoiding imminent death, the swirl of legal and business complications that suddenly engulfed him was a frightening and unsettling experience.

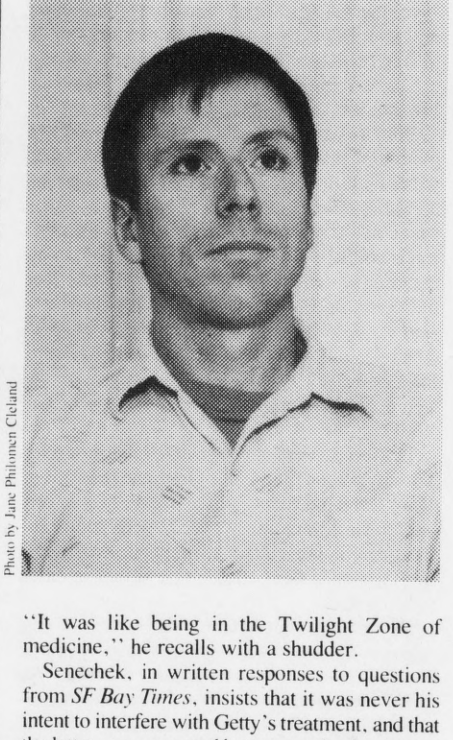

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

"It was like being in the Twilight Zone of medicine," he recalls with a shudder.

Senechek, in written responses to questions from *SF Bay Times*, insists that it was never his intent to interfere with Getty's treatment, and that the letter was prompted by rumors that Levin was treating other HIV patients. "I never took any action to interfere with Mr. Getty's medical care," he declares, adding that he wonders if Getty "has some personal vendetta against me."

Senechek asserts that Getty was mentioned during recent discussions with Levin's representatives over possible renegotiation of the deal (including a potential early end to the non-competition clause): "Since Dr. Levin had begun to treat Mr. Getty in some form, Mr. Getty's medical care was made an exception... thus the attorney's correspondence did not affect his care."

Levin recalls matters differently, saying Getty's name never came up in the discussions until after the cease-and-desist letter arrived, but adds that he now prefers to characterize the matter as a "misunderstanding," adding, "I don't want to paint Dr. Senechek as a bad guy."

TREATMENT DELAYS

Despite the procedural complications, that first infusion went fairly smoothly, marred only by an allergic reaction to a new antibiotic Getty was given. Although unpleasant and somewhat nerve-wracking, the reaction was itself "a good sign," explains Levin, an indication that the patient's immune system was showing signs of life.

And once the allergic reaction passed, Getty says, he almost immediately began to feel healthier than he had before the cell transfer.

But the procedure was never intended to be a one-shot deal, since there was little reason to hope that the new white cells would give Getty's immune system more than a temporary boost. It would need to be repeated every few weeks, and before the second infusion could happen the hospital's insistence on IRB approval would have to be dealt with.

But all, it seemed, was not well at Mt. Zion. Attorney Ponzi says he had heard that "some of the doctors were getting cold feet... Supposedly they were thinking of 'investigating' the doctors involved" in the first procedure. Ponzi was negotiating with representatives from UCSF/Mt. Zion regarding needed approvals for the second infusion. He had persuaded Woeber, he says, to let them use Project Inform's IRB rather than the one at UCSF/Mt. Zion, which he and Levin felt might be less hospitable. But then, while Woeber was out of town for a few days, Ponzi says he and the doctor were informed that the hospital had reversed itself and was now insisting that its own IRB review the procedure.

An unhappy Jeff Getty, by now convinced that the first treatment had indeed helped, went to his colleagues in ACT UP/Golden Gate and explained the situation. The result was a pair of strongly worded letters, one to Woeber and one to Senechek, telling each of them, in essence, to back off.

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Negotiations continued, somewhat tensely, until the matter was finally resolved: Mt. Zion would accept the approval of Project Inform's IRB, which by now had given its official thumbs up to the procedure.

But the extended haggling had delayed Getty's second treatment by nearly three weeks.

Ponzi is convinced that unseen hands were behind at least some of the delays, though he is reluctant to speculate as to names. "I'm not sure who, but someone was definitely trying to block this procedure and make it more difficult," he declares. "It seemed like an inordinate amount of pressure was being put on people."

The attorney calls the episode "one of the most frustrating periods of my life. Here is somebody who is clearly not doing well, trying to get a simple procedure done, running into all these bureaucratic obstacles. It was disgusting to see physicians putting their personal interests over those of the patient."

Difficult as it was, the story seems—so far, at least—to have a happy ending. After four treatments, Getty is feeling better than he has since last spring and is back to a fairly active schedule. "I feel great," he enthused two days before the deadline for this article. "I'm going to the gym tomorrow." Although his blood work shows only fairly modest improvements in his CD4 and CD8 numbers, what counts, he says, is that he feels back in the world of the living.

SUCCESSFUL SCIENCE?

So is sibling white blood cell transfer the answer for late-stage AIDS patients? No one involved would dare to make such a claim as yet for what Levin himself calls a "chewing gum and bailing wire" approach to patching up a tattered immune system. It is axiomatic in science that one case, no matter how dramatic it may appear, doesn't prove that something works. AIDS and its attendant infections are unpredictable enough that much more experience will be needed before firm conclusions can be drawn. The research now under way may provide answers sometime next year.

On a broader level, Levin is convinced that a major factor delaying progress against AIDS is a combination of conservatism and petty rivalries that have kept innovative approaches from being tried. "We have all the tools available right now" to fight AIDS, he declares. "I wouldn't dream of going back into HIV if I thought the disease was being cared for appropriately by my medical colleagues because, frankly, I'm making a lot of money doing non-HIV medicine."

Business considerations and turf battles "have been interfering with the care of patients ever since I've been involved," Levin continues, the emotion beginning to rise in his voice. "It's very disheartening to have to deal with this terrible disease—and then the politics, and then the greed. And the thing that's stopping [progress] is greed."

For people who must depend on doctors to help them stay alive, Ponzi says, the unhappy lesson is: "Don't always assume that physicians are always going to act in the best interest of patients. Sometimes there are other considerations.

"The politics of medicine suck." ✿

Fundies Keep Hate Alive:

Pastor David Innes Visits Colorado Springs

by Tim Kingston

The "riot" at Hamilton Square Baptist Church is probably the best thing that ever happened to Pastor David Innes: spiritually, emotionally and perhaps even financially. That "riot" put Innes on the map politically as a supposedly persecuted fundamentalist Christian, and it has made him a hero on CBN—the Christian Broadcast TV Network. And that same event has put Innes all over the Christian Right airwaves—courtesy of James Dobson's Dec. 6 and 7 "Focus on the Family" radio-show programs entitled "Homosexual and Lesbian Activism."

"Do you agree that screaming there, at the beginning of the tape, had a kind a of—almost a demonic quality to it?" inquired Dobson querulously after listening to a tape of the raucous September protest against Lou Sheldon's appearance at Innes' church. Dobson added, "I'm not saying that the people who did this are demon possessed. I don't know; only God knows that. But people can judge for themselves."

On Nov. 22—the day after Lou Sheldon made his second appearance at Hamilton Square—Pastor David Innes of Hamilton Square and Pastor Charles McIllhenny and Donna McIllhenny of the First Orthodox Presbyterian Church flew to Colorado Springs to tape the two-hour radio special. They were joined by Dr. Bernie Kuiper of the Village Seven Presbyterian Church—home church of Colorado for Family Values (CFV) (Kuiper has also been the subject of queer protests, but of a somewhat more creative nature than the Hamilton Square Baptist action. Activists in suits attended a service and handed out condoms and Kool Aid—a la Jim Jones—to the parishioners.)

James Dobson with his national "Focus on the Family" show is a force to be reckoned with. When the Moral Majority was retired, Dobson was the man Jerry Falwell tapped as most likely to carry on his culture wars into the 1990s. According to People for the American Way, the "Focus on the Family" organization moved to Colorado Springs in 1991 and has an annual budget of $77 million; it employs 2,200 people.

Critics charge that Dobson cloaks his harsh anti-gay, anti-choice and pro-censorship stance with a warm folksy exterior that has made his organization one of the most popular "ministries" in the country.

Thus it is not surprising that Dobson's program—monitored by Simple Justice, a Colorado Springs-based progressive group—asserts San Francisco is "a paradigm of anarchy and lawlessness" where the police are afraid to act because of the homosexual power structure. In Colorado Springs Innes was somewhat freer with his comments about the queer community than he is in San Francisco. "[Homosexuals] can nakedly, in public, perform perverse sexual acts, and the police are told they must conform to a policy of high tolerance, which means they do nothing about it," said Innes.

Rev. David Innes listens to a spiritual/political discourse from a gay activist outside City Hall. Photo Jane Philomen Cleland.

Innes, the McIllhennys and Dobson failed to mention that the reason for the September protest was the appearance of arch-homophobe Lou Sheldon. Sheldon was simply referred to as "a speaker not on their approved roster of speakers," making it appear that the protest was an unprovoked attack on a Christian congregation.

"What they are trying to do is portray that Christians are being oppressed or attacked by gays and lesbians," says Mike Fisher, of Simple Justice, who monitored and transcribed the program. "They are very into portraying Christians as being victimized. It does not matter what happens, Christians are the ones being victimized. Even when [Christians] are in the majority, [they] have to be the victim!"

Because Colorado Springs is the epicenter of Christian Right organizing, inquiring minds also wanted to know if Innes had conferred with CFV founder Will Perkins about right-wing electoral organizing in California. Innes refused to discuss the issue with the *SF Bay Times*, offering his trademark "no comment" to all queries. CFV founder Will Perkins was more talkative, but he firmly denied any contact with Innes. Perkins also said that "to his knowledge" CFV has not given any money to Innes' Hamilton Square Baptist Church.

But Frank Whitworth of Ground Zero, the Colorado Springs watchdog group that keeps a wary eye on the religious Right, says he has no direct knowledge of whether or not Perkins has contributed to Hamilton Square Baptist Church, but he adds that such denials may be suspect: "In general they have no compunction against lying; they will resort to lies to accomplish their ends." Neither Ground Zero, nor any other antibigotry groups, is aware of any contact between Innes and CFV. "Colorado Springs is the Vatican of fundamentalism," says Whitworth. "You might say they are making their pilgrimage to Mecca. I can't say it means anything other than that he came to do homage to Dobson."

Meanwhile, back in San Francisco from Colorado, Innes is continuing his fundraising and organizing efforts, trailed by a loyal CBN crew. At a Dec. 7 San Francisco School Board meeting, Innes showed up to protest a comment made by school board president Tom Ammiano about a church's use of school facilities. But prior to the meeting, Liz Alward, a self-described recovering Fundie, overheard Innes giving an interview to CBN with a very different subject in mind.

Alward described Innes as saying: "'We are here because Tom Ammiano, president of the School Board, is an avowed homosexual, and homosexuals control the moral agenda of this city and school system.' He said not only do they teach sex, but they teach about AIDS and they teach about homosexual sex, which is responsible for over 30,000 deaths in the city."

Much as many people would like him to, Innes evidently has no intention of fading back into the obscurity from which he came. So be prepared to see him pop up again and again as the local point-guy for the Christian Right. ✿

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news briefs by tommi avicolli mecca

Clinton Springs Into Action

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Don't despair! Our white knight in the White House is tackling AIDS—and a recent press release to the *SF Bay Times* assures us of the monumental actions he's undertaking to fight this worldwide pandemic.

On Nov. 29, President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore hosted an AIDS Interfaith Religious Breakfast. The prez, according to this release, "used the breakfast as an opportunity to discuss AIDS and community responses to this deadly epidemic." He also (drum roll, please!) signed a proclamation declaring Dec. 1 as "World AIDS Day."

Attendees included a list of representatives from every imaginable religious denomination known in the U.S.

The World AIDS Day proclamation says that the current administration "has undertaken a new commitment to AIDS research and prevention and to the development of improved care and treatment for those with HIV disease."

A spiffy full-color photo of Clinton (standing under a chandelier whose sale could probably provide housing for a lot of homeless folks with AIDS) with the religious representatives was enclosed.

Meanwhile, in what may prove to be a more hopeful move, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala has formed a National Task Force on AIDS Drug Development to expedite the search for new therapies against AIDS.

The 15-member panel will be drawn from government, the pharmaceutical industry, academia, medicine and the AIDS-affected communities. Now, if it can just get things done...

ACLU Tackles Boy Scouts Again

LOS ANGELES - The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California is once again representing Tim Curran, who after many years of membership with the Mt. Diablo Council of the Boy Scouts, was told he could no longer participate after a newspaper story revealed that he was gay.

The case is convening in the appellate court, challenging a previous lower court ruling in favor of the Boy Scouts. The lower court allowed the group to exclude Curran on "freedom of expression" grounds and because the Boys Scout organization claims that it teaches that "homosexuality is immoral."

Meanwhile, right-wing crusader Susan Carpenter held a press conference outside the ACLU office, accusing the organization of being the legal machinery for every immoral act in this country and denouncing it for representing Curran. She also donated a check for $25,000 to the Boy Scouts for its anti-gay policy.

Says ACLU Director Ramona Ripston, "The ACLU is not anti-Scout, it is anti-discrimination... It is unfortunate that some people want to promote intolerance and are willing to channel money to further it. Money should be used to end discrimination, not foster it."

Finally, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the right of the Boy Scouts to exclude agnostics and atheists. The court said that the public accommodations category of anti-bias laws does not cover the Scouts. The suit was brought on behalf of an 11-year-old boy in illinois.

Meinhold To Reenlist

SAN FRANCISCO - U.S. Navy Petty Officer Keith Meinhold will reenlist on Dec. 16 in a ceremony beginning at 7:30 am, with the oath being administered at 8 am in the courtyard of the War Memorial's Veteran's Complex, Van Ness between Grove and McAllister sts. U.S. Navy Lt. Zoe Dunning will administer the oath.

The event is sponsored by the Alexander Hamilton Post #448 of the American Legion, which has outreach to gay/lesbian vets. Meinhold's mother, Margaret Green, will attend the ceremony.

One hour later, at 9 am, the U.S. Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments in the case of Meinhold vs. the U.S. Department of Defense. The court will determine whether the military's gay ban is constitutional, and will decide whether to put into effect a lower court order prohibiting the Defense Department from discriminating in any way on the basis of sexual orientation.

While the Clinton administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy is not at issue, a ruling in this case could strike it down, and "end discrimination in the military," according to Meinhold's attorney, John McGuire. Stay tuned.

FBI Settles Suit

SAN FRANCISCO - In a tentative settlement in a case involving a gay agent, the FBI has agreed not to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

Former agent Frank Buttino sued the FBI after he was fired in 1990 for what he claims was anti-gay discrimination. Now the agency is formulating new policy guidelines which specify that applicants will not be asked about their sexual orientation or conduct.

A week before this resolution, U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno issued her order prohibiting discrimination within the FBI or the Justice Department.

According to the new guidelines, sexual conduct—whether gay or straight—will only be considered relevant if it raises a question about character, judgement, candor or discretion.

Supervisor Susan Leal hosted a successful campaign kickoff at Trader Vic's on Dec. 9. This will be the first-ever electoral campaign for Leal, who was appointed by Mayor Jordan to fill Roberta Achtenberg's seat on the board when she went to Washington, D.C., last summer. Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland.

A Kiss Is Still a Kiss?

CANON AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. - An Air Force captain who claims he's straight was court-martialed for allowing enlisted personnel in his room and making a pass at an airman by kissing him on the cheek.

Capt. G. Andrew Espinosa was granted an automatic appeal against charges that he indecently assaulted the airman who was among several in his room to watch the NBA playoffs. Reportedly, homosexuality was not overtly discussed at the court-martial hearing.

In another military story (there are a lot of them these days), former ROTC cadet Jay Belangia still wants to be an officer in the military despite the fact that he was ousted after declaring his homosexuality. He was kicked out supposedly because his grades had fallen. The Columbia, South Carolina student says he wants to make a fresh start at another college, perhaps in a larger city. He also may pursue law or politics.

In addition to losing his ROTC program, Belangia is being asked to pay back $3,000 in scholarship money. He's appealing the latter ruling.

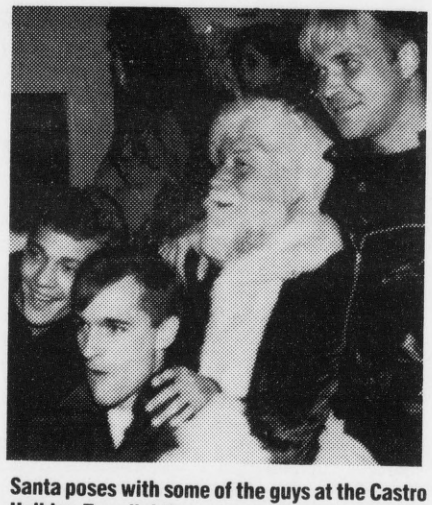
And in our final military story this issue, a Salem, Oregon lesbian National Guard lieutenant will not be dismissed—at least not until the Defense Department comes up with a clear statement on its policy about gays and lesbians. Lt. Col. Mike Caldwell says that the case involving Elli Work is in limbo right now. (With the pagan babies, right?)

South Africa Bans Safe Sex Video

CAPE TOWN - Reel Communications in this South African city has produced two safe-sex videos (one gay, one straight) that the government of this nation has banned (are we surprised?). Apparently, the videos are "devoid of a moral message."

The videos feature interracial couples and demonstrate the use of male and female condoms as well as direct discussion of what's involved in safe sex.

The editor of *Esteem* magazine, South Africa's gay monthly paper, hit the poverbial nail on the head when he said: "In reality, the videos are promoting an extremely moral message—how to have enjoyable sex while protecting yourself and your partner from AIDS."



Santa poses with some of the guys at the Castro Holiday Tree lighting ceremonies. Photo by Rink.

Exploitation Goes Better with Coke?

SAN FRANCISCO - Coca-Cola is allegedly trying to abandon an agreement made with the farmworkers, according to a release from the United Farm Workers of America (UFW).

Hundreds of workers in the orange groves of Florida, the group charges, have given their adult lives to Coca-Cola by growing and harvesting oranges for Minute Maid, a billion dollar company owned by Coca-Cola. For over 20 years, these workers have enjoyed the security of a UFW contract.

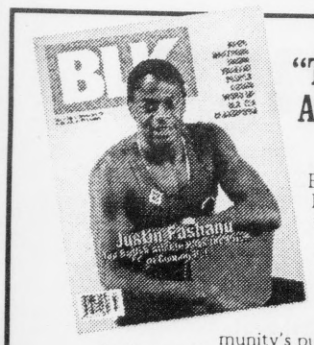
Now, Coke wants to abandon its contract agreement, UFW charges, leaving 600 farm workers at the mercy of labor contractors. Workers may lose their union benefits, such as job security, health care for themselves and their children, pension plans, and a living wage.

UFW is urging supporters to call 1 (800) 438-2653 and tell Coke you support contract benefits for migrant farm workers.

Prostitutes Don't Like Hallinan's Plan

SAN FRANCISCO - The U.S. Prostitutes Collective, which is represented on Supervisor Terence Hallinan's task force on prostitution, is not happy with the way current proposals to legalize prostitution are going.

According to the Collective, many on the task force are pushing for city-run brothels, where prostitute women would be registered, subject to



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Entertainment at the Women's Building Crafts Fair at Ft. Mason, which was a successful fundraiser for the building. Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland.

Lynn Johnston, cartoonist who draws "For Better or For Worse," sign's a copy of "Lawrence's Story," about a young man who comes out to his parents and friends, in a recent appearance in San Francisco. Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland.

health inspections, and forced to carry passbooks. "Legalization/regulation would not end the poverty and stigmatization of sex workers," says the Collective.

In addition, the group objects to the association of sex workers with "health problems." Says the group: "Many studies show that men are not getting AIDS from women—prostitute or not—and that sex workers are the first to take care of our health if the necessary services are available."

In countries where legalization has occurred, it's created "assembly lines of sex which women have described as prisons," the group says. "The abolition of the prostitution laws would allow women to advertise and work from their own premises," says the Collective.

Miller Sponsors Gay Games

MILWAUKEE - Miller Brewing Company will be the exclusive malt beverage sponsor of Gay Games IV and Cultural Festival, June 18-25, 1994 in the Big Apple, a Miller Brewing Company official has announced.

According to Greg Plowe, consumer promotions manager: "Gay Games IV is an international event, and this year more than 15,000 athletes from 40 countries are expected to participate. We're pleased to be able to help these athletes compete in an event of this caliber and to bring the games to an estimated 500,000 spectators."

Miller will also work with distributors in select markets to assist in fundraising events for local teams.

A Tacky Follow-up To the Previous Item

SAN FRANCISCO - While you're celebrating with your Miller this holiday season, remember that December has been designated Drunk and Drugged Driver Prevention Month by the local Board of Supes.

The Citywide Alcoholism Advisory Board is joining hundreds of local, state and national organizations to support efforts to reduce drunk driving and associated tragedies.

For more information, call (415) 255-3521. As the ads say, "Friends don't let friends drive drunk," even if they're drinking Miller.

Don't Light Up

SAN FRANCISCO - The Coalition of Lavender-Americans on Smoking and Health (CLASH) is launching a campaign to educate the lesbian/gay/bisexual community about tobacco-related hazards.

The two-year-old organization has produced a series of five posters that illustrate how tobacco harms the community. The posters have messages that include: "More Women Now Die of Lung Cancer than of Breast Cancer," "Smoking Suppresses Your Immune System" and "Tobacco Use is Substance Abuse."

The groups says that smoking can be particularly dangerous to those with HIV/AIDS, citing an April 1993 study out of London showing that HIV-positive smokers contract AIDS quicker than HIV-positive nonsmokers.

The news is especially disturbing when you consider that lesbians/gays/bisexuals are "61 percent more likely to smoke than the population-at-large," says CLASH president Naphtali Offen.

Bill Graham Explains

SAN FRANCISCO - Neither Bette Midler nor the Bill Graham Presents organization is trying to deceive the queer community. Only the $500 tickets to the mega-star's end-of-December concert here in the queer mecca will benefit AIDS organizations—a fact, says Graham spokesperson Mark Westlund, that has been made clear from the beginning.

Westlund says that an *SF Chronicle* piece three or four weeks ago, as well as recent promotional ads, stated that proceeds from only those tickets will go to the fight against AIDS. He also says that the Midler organization made the decision about which tickets would benefit AIDS.

Westlund recommended that *SF Bay Times* talk to Midler's people in Los Angeles about the decision to make only the $500 tickets benefit AIDS. The Midler spokesperson was not in, and an assistant said that she was too busy to talk to *SF Bay Times*.

"We're not involved with the benefit, we have nothing to do with it," she said. She suggested that this reporter fax the paper's concerns to her.

Kaposi's Sarcoma Alert

SAN FRANCISCO - For those who may have missed the big story in the straight media recently, here's a recap on the latest about Kaposi's Sarcoma in the Bay Area.

It appears that Kaposi's is appearing in gay men and others who are HIV-negative and who don't have AIDS, according to the report that originally appeared on KPIX Channel 5 Eyewitness News two weeks ago.

Six such cases have been uncovered in San Francisco, more than a dozen in New York, and at least 28 nationally. San Francisco AIDS specialist Dr. Marcus Conant, who treats three of the HIV-negative Kaposi's cases, believes that it is caused by an agent separate from HIV. He believes that Kaposi's was spreading throughout the gay community even before AIDS and has simply been dormant since then.

Conant says that Kaposi's is treatable and that the cases in HIV-negative people don't appear to be fatal. Before AIDS, Kaposi's was common among Mediterranean men.

Alive & Well

SAN JOSE - To set the rumors aside, here's the facts on what's happening with the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, located at 175 Stockton Avenue in this South Bay city: Its three-year lease ends in January and negotiations are continuing with the landlord for another rental agreement. The center does not wish to move at this time.

The center's next move, says its board, will be to a space it owns. It currently faces another crisis, though: Parking in the area has become a real task, thanks to the opening of a new arena. But the center is working with the city on a solution to that problem.

Meanwhile, the center can use support. The phone number is (408) 293-GAY.

Erotica Cancelled

SAN FRANCISCO - Erotica SF, a TV series on Viacom's leased access cable channel 47, was cancelled by Viacom for an alleged "indecent" episode.

Producers offered to re-edit the program in question, but Viacom insisted on cancelling the series. Erotica is SF's first sex-positive TV series for the Bay Area that stresses the importance of safe sex, good communication and the fight against censorship.

The program at issue featured mythologist Cosi Fablan discussing sacred prostitutes; erotic video producer Veronica Monet; porn star Shanna McCullough; censorship updates with Bobby Lilly of Californians Aganst Censorship; and scenes from the Exotic Erotic Ball and Fetish Fantasy Ball.

BITS & PIECES I: LOCAL

• Ride the Dyke Train to... suburbia? Lesbian Avengers is planning to visit the outer reaches of civilization on Dec. 18. Meet in the middle of the Concord-bound platform of the MacArthur BART at 6 pm. According to the release, "wear your best Dykewear and a jacket to temporarily conceal it." The group's hotline is 267-6195 for more info.

• On Dec. 19, Women's Action Coalition and the Lesbian Avengers present "Come out for the holidays," a lesbian/bi women's visibility action celebrating queer families in the holiday spirit. Meet at 11 am outside the SF Centre at Powell and Market sts. Shop for that right gift with lesbian/bi women.

• The author of the single payer health plan, U.S. Rep. Jim McDermott (D-Wash.) and Rep. Lynn Woolsey (D-Petaluma), as well as Clinton administration rep Catherine Dodd, spoke at a public forum on health-care reform on Dec. 11 at the Sebastopol Veterans Hall in Sebastopol, California. McDermott's American Health Security Act (HR 1200), which bases its health-care system on successful ones in Canada and European countries, has 92 cosponsors in the House.

• Women who have suffered the injustices of welfare fraud prosecutions will lead other poor women in a speakout organized by the Women's Economic Agenda Project and the Women's Action Coalition on Dec. 14, 11 am to 1 pm at the welfare office, 150 Otis Street, in San Francisco. For more info, call 666-3771.

• The Shanti Project's board of directors elected Leonard A. Simpson, MD, a San Francisco orthopedic surgeon, as its new chair. Newly elected board members include Christie McManus, an executive at Pacific Gas and Electric, and Claire Rappoport, an expert on women and HIV.

• Martha McPheeters and Marcia Munson have announced their celebration of 21 years of open love, uncommitted sex, firm friendship and wild adventures. They are organizing an anniversary party on Dec. 10 in Ft. Collins, Colorado. Ironically, Martha and Marcia have never lived together, never dated each other exclusively, nor have they ever been committed to the continuation of their involvement. Theirs could be called an accidental, rather than an intentional, relationship.

• Members of the SF gay/lesbian/bisexual community joined union workers at the city's two Emporium stores recently to protest the retailers alleged attempts to strip employees of vital protections against discrimination in the new contract. Union officials are calling for a boycott against the stores. Now comes word that store officials are willing to meet with Mayor Frank Jordan and U.S. Rep. Tom Lantos (D-San Mateo)

(continued on next page)

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(continued from previous page)

to try and break a five-month stalemate on a new contract.

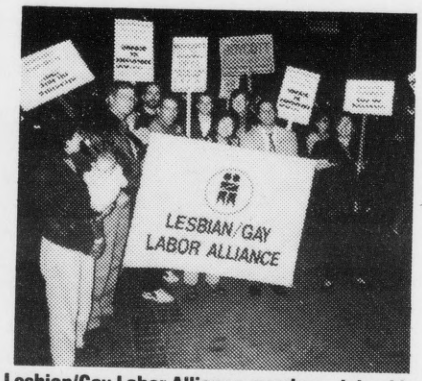
• State Treasurer Kathleen Brown joined the state's public pension fund board in a historic vote that called for an end to discrimination based on sexual orientation by the national company Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores. While that resolution (offered by a New York pension fund) did not pass at the recent board meeting, it did garner enough votes to put it on the agenda for next year's stockholder's meeting.

• In a not-surprising finding, a UCSF study shows that men infected with the AIDS virus who show symptoms of depression lose their physical disease-fighting capabilities more quickly than nondepressed infected men. In a study of 350 HIV-infected men, covering more than five-and-a-half years, UCSF researchers found a link between depression and rapid decline of CD4 cells—the disease-fighting cells of the immune system. Men who were depressed had a 38 percent faster decline of CD4 cells.

• A motion by El Cerrito, California councilmember Norman LaForce to refer the issue of domestic partnership to the city's Human Relations Commission failed by a 2-2 vote on Nov. 15. LaForce wanted to request information from the commission and City Manager regarding possible action the city could take to support El Cerrito's gay/lesbian couples.

• Voices of Pride, an organization dedicated to providing resources and support to gay/lesbian/bisexual youth and their families in our community, has just produced the Mentor-Leadership Program. It focuses on bringing gay/lesbian/bisexual business leaders and community youth together in a mentor/leader relationship. Kickoff event is Dec. 16, 5:30-7:30 pm at the VOP Resource Center, 1658 Excelsior Ave., in Oakland. RSVP at (510) 530-8529.

• Steven Shum has been named director of the new Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Resource Center at the University of California, Riverside, the only professionally staffed center of its kind in the 165,000-student, nine-campus UC system. Shum, 23, an English and Communications studies graduate of UCLA, formerly headed the UCLA program, Students Honestly Opening Up Together, and was a volunteer team leader of the Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team.



Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance members, joined by School Board Prez Tom Ammiano, and School Board member Angie Fa, at the Emporium picket.

Photo by Rink.

• San Francisco freelance writer Bruce Mirken is seeking anyone with information about Paul Komiotis, a gay youth who fled to the City about three years ago after being institutionalized by his family at the age of 14 in an attempt to "treat" his sexual orientation. Komiotis died earlier this year, and Mirken is attempting to piece together the circumstances which led to his untimely death. If you have info, contact Mirken at 621-8258. Confidentiality will be maintained if needed, and collect calls accepted.

BITS & PIECES II: NATIONAL

• Female Trouble of Philadelphia, a women's S/M and leather group, is sponsoring a nationwide survey, "Women Against S/M Women within the Lesbian Community," to determine the extent of violence against S/M women within the women's community. Especially sought are acts of harassment, intimidation, discrimination and physical assault. A formal report will be out in January/February, 1994. For surveys, contact Jad Keres, FT Survey, Box 30145, Phila., PA 19103 or call (215) 844-5733.

• According to Louisiana State basketball coach Dale Brown, two of his football players arrested for burglary are merely victims of a sick society that provides them with role models such as homosexuals and drunks. Says the coach: "They get good people to copy from. The television personalities that are homosexuals and embezzlers, the coaches that are drunks, the ministers that are false evangelists." What about bigoted coaches?

• A first-of-its-kind directory has just been published by the Working Group on Funding Lesbian and Gay Issues. It's called "Funders of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Programs: A Directory for Grantseekers." It provides info on potential funders for organizations and projects proposed by the lesbian/gay/bisexual communities. It's available for $10 from 666 Broadway, Suite 520, New York, New York 10012, or by calling (212) 475-2930.

• Robert Reich, secretary of labor, held a townhall meeting before an audience of Department of Labor employees on Nov. 23. He affirmed that he was opposed to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and that he would not tolerate such discrimination in the department.

• Lambda Book Report opened nominations for the Sixth Annual Lambda Literary Awards, "the Lammys," recognizing excellence in gay/lesbian writing and publishing. The awards will be presented at a gala banquet in Los Angeles on May 27, 1994, during the American Booksellers Association Convention. For more information, contact Lambda at 1625 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009-1013 or call (202) 462-7924.

• The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance at North Idaho College wants to be official. The group approached the college board recently with its request for official status, which provides funding and permission to meet on campus. The board took no action at this time.

• During the process of writing the upcoming movie, *Philadelphia*, which takes place in the city of the same name, screenwriter Ron Nyswaner read over hundreds of cases, including one that this reporter covered while living in the City of Sisterly and Brotherly Love. The 1990 case involved a suit brought by a senior attorney, Clarence Cain, against Hyatt Legal Services. Cain won his claim that the firm fired him because he had AIDS. His judgement was $157,000. The owner of the firm, Joel Hyatt, is now a candidate for U.S. Senate in Ohio. He denies the movie is about the Cain case. But gay groups in that state think it's an important campaign issue.

• The Seattle mother who gave up her child only to file for custody after two gay men were set to adopt him, will not be getting the boy temporarily. An appeals court overruled the placement of the boy with his mother, pending review by the State Department of Social and Health Services.

• A Chicago judge who restricted visitation for a lesbian mother has been reprimanded by an appeals court for his homophobic remarks during the trial. It also overturned his ruling about visitation. The judge's name? James Harris of the Cook County Circuit Court.

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• In Los Angeles, radio stations are banning certain rap music because it advocates violence or demeans women. Radio stations around the country are being faced with similar decisions. Three of the words considered most offensive by the stations, and the community groups pushing for their bleeping, are "bitch," "ho" and "nigga." The ACLU in L.A., meanwhile, is opposed to censoring the words. "The use of these words, as offensive as they may be, is part of the discussion within our society that any art is supposed to be a key part of," says an ACLU spokesperson.

• In Idaho, State Sen. Stan Hawkins (R-Ucon) wants to ban gays from receiving "minority preferences and advantages." He plans to introduce legislation to that effect. The Idaho Citizens Alliance, meantime, wants an initiative on the November 1994 ballot to prohibit gay rights laws throughout the state. Looks like Idaho is a fun place to be these days.

• In Seattle, a vote has been delayed on domestic partners legislation, which would allow same-sex couples to register with the northwestern city. It seems the measure has the support of the majority of the city council as well as the mayor. The debate over the bill now centers on exactly when it should be passed.

• High school students participating in a mock legislature twice rejected gay rights legislation, though they generally voted liberally on their own issues. For instance, they approved condom distribution.

• Imagine this! The City Council of Topeka, Kansas approved a bill limiting picketing because of anti-gay demos outside of churches by Rev. Fred Phelps Sr. and his followers. Mayor Butch (his real name!) Felker will probably veto it. Phelps, a disbarred attorney, regularly pickets at intersections, and churches, carrying antigay signs. A lot of town folks find him extremely annoying. But, hey, that's the price of living in a democracy, right?

• A group in Junction City, Oregon that planned to fight the Oregon Citizen Alliance's latest anti-gay rights initiative has decided to build homes for the needy instead. "It just seemed that with all the energy and talent we have in our group, it would be better to do this than using it on politics," says Nancy Hamilton of the No Charter Amendment Political Action Committee.

• Neighbors of the New Life Metropolitan Community Church in Matthews, North Carolina are going to court to reverse the change in zoning that allows the pro-gay ministry to operate in its current location. Says the lawyer representing the families filing the suit "Homosexuals are entitled to go wherever they want to go. But I don't want one in my neighborhood."

• Guess who contributed nearly 80 percent of the money for the battle against Cincinnati's gay rights law? Colorado for Family Values. Proves you can't keep the slime from slipping over state lines. Cincinnati now has a law restricting it from enforcing laws protecting gays/lesbians/bisexuals. The new law is on hold at the moment, pending a legal battle in court.

• A lawsuit has been filed in Montana charging that the state sodomy laws encourage discrimination and violence against gays and lesbians. Six people are plantiffs in the suit. The sodomy law in Montana subjects a person to 10 years in prison or fines of up to $50,000.

Associated Press also contributed to this report. ✿

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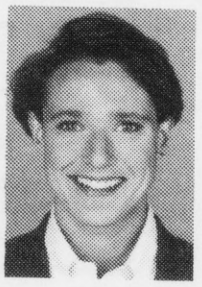

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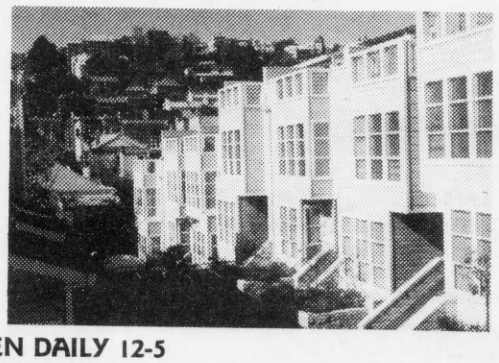

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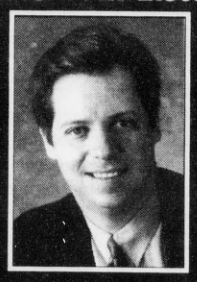

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Return of the Crusades

Reverend Lou Sheldon has a plan, and so far, it's working. Sheldon often is invited to town by Rev. David Innes, pastor of San Francisco's Hamilton Square Baptist Church. Sheldon heads the Traditional Values Coalition, one of several crusading anti-gay Christian/political groups. Sheldon's leadership role has contributed to gay suicides, deaths, bashings, ostracism and misery—nationwide. So Sheldon comes to seek sanction in the most gay place on the face of the earth. Imagine the psychological impact Sheldon could have, worldwide, if he could claim some small victory over San Francisco's gay community?

Sheldon's message is not only for the pious in the pews at Hamilton Square Baptist Church. He means to wage a secular, political war in the media. He means to use tax-free dollars and spin doctors and prayerful film crews to deliver the kind of footage that pushes conservative buttons and fuels his lean, mean money machine. For a minister, Sheldon has proven masterful at inspiring raw hate. Just his presence makes some gay activists go berserk and anti-gays donate big bucks to put faggots and dykes in their place.

Sheldon knew he could depend upon a Pavlovian response from some in the Gay Capitol. He got what he came for—millions of dollars worth of free publicity and propaganda he couldn't buy. In case you have not heard, we are at war! The holy crusade vs. the gay resistance is not about sexuality. The war is about power and control over the behavior of those who dare to be different. This war is about human rights, about the freedom to be proud of who we are, and about banning oppression by either church or state.

Rev. David Innes' active assault on the San Francisco queer community dates back to funding of the Boy Scounts by Bank of America. Pictured: Innes is confronted by protesters at a demonstration staged by local fundamentalist ministers in early 1993 in support of the Scouts and BofA. Photo by Rink.

FAMILY VALUES IS THE BATTLEFIELD

Family has been redefined. Family in the '90s may not mean nuclear or a sleigh ride to grandmother's house. Family may mean friends who accept you when judgmental relatives disown you. Family may mean a same-sex lover or lovers who support each other when blood relatives do not. Family may mean those gay men and women who struggle collectively to overcome the shame, disrespect, and hatred in their lives. Family may simply mean those who share unconditional love. Would that Christian values meant taking care of the abused and throw-away children bred in and out of heterosexual wedlock. Would that Christians were more concerned about loving their fellow man (the variety of mankind "God" created) and supporting the highest truth in each of us.

Oddly, what is lacking on both sides of this battlefield (pro-gay and anti-gay) is the spiritual. The anti-gay forces are fearful of difference. They want to foist their belief system onto unrepentant nonbelievers. While heterosexuals enjoy acceptance, the Religious Right would condemn gays to everlasting abstinence from sexual consummation with same-sex partners. The Religious Right thinks God is on their side, and the only worthy sex is heterosexual procreation in the missionary position.

What happened to separation between church and state? The church has been exempted from taxes and otherwise accommodated in part to assure and sustain that separation. The state has remained separate from religious matters. The church has not remained separate from secular affairs. That is why, rightly or wrongly, some gay activists intrude on church services—just as the offending church intrudes on the secular rights of lesbian and gay citizens. Unlike the Religious Right, gay advocates are not contributing to heterosexual bashing or death. Gay advocates are not fueling a cottage industry that makes its leaders rich by espousing hate and deprivation of basic human rights for straights.

ACTIVISM IS GOING DOWN THE DRAIN

Sheldon understands how leather, beads and spit in his face will incite his minions in mid-America to give more to his cause. He has made the imagery of a few gays the focus of his alarm. He has associated the health crisis of this century with biblical retribution. The gay rights movement, on the other hand, seems to be directionless, leaderless and reactive, not proactive. Some gays don't trust or respect anybody older or younger, darker or lighter, or (God forbid) straight to lead the way. Gay failure to bond works to Sheldon's advantage. Gays are unwilling pawns in somebody else's media spin.

The SF Board of Supervisors and the SF gay community have been manipulated into performing as extras and bit players in a morals docu-drama on "The 700 Club." Who is at the helm of advocacy for the gay community? The answer is no one. One of the reasons: Gay activism is not all it's cracked up to be. Risk of disapproval, power plays and cross-purposes are strongly in evidence. The accolades are few. Those who are not cannibalized by their following certainly will be maligned by those they serve. Gay activism does not always leave one satisfied or wanting a cigarette the morning after. The victories are sweet but shortlived when you live under siege.

The responsibilities of gay leadership are not always clear. At first, being gay was like being part of a secret society, complete with secret code words and colors. There was more anonymity in being gay. Activism was something we did in search of our identity. But that has changed. Our political reality requires different skills, greater visibility and vision. Our identity as gay people is more widely known. We idolize our fantasies as role models. We pay homage by supporting video and print "models" and sex phone lines to a greater extent than we support movement leaders. We have little consideration for the elders who brought the movement this far and more for our next conquest. We throw away our leaders the same way we throw away old lovers and friends.

We create our own lepers. We have entered a time when if we fail to make the decisions, the decisions will be made for us. The young communicate less with the old. Blacks talk less with whites, dykes less with queens, drags less with the leather crowd. Gays, like the Religious Right,

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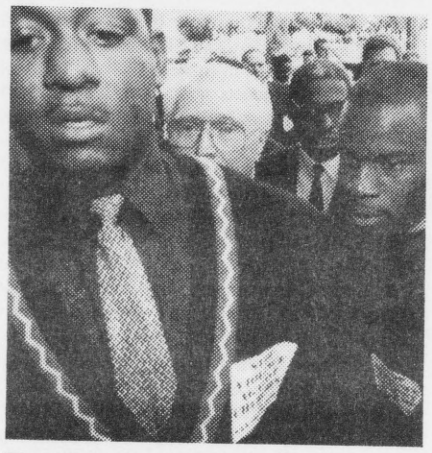
suffer from strains of sameness sickness. We distance ourselves in countless ways as we grow older, we become less of a commodity in a youth-obsessed community, as well as in an American mainstream that's willing to write us off. As we victims condemn others to isolation, we condemn ourselves to a limited future as outcasts in a community of outcasts.

ACTIVISM CAN BE A DRAG

There are occasions when nothing but acting out will draw focus to injustice and ultimately catapult the community into righteous indignation. But we must weigh the objectives with the consequences of our actions. There are serious reasons to pay closer attention to how we demonstrate and who we support with our money, our vote and our advocacy. Accountability, experience and a plan are more important than whether a candidate is gay or whether venting in Halloween attire is just therapy for some demonstrators. Our morality and our very existence has been challenged. We cannot scream that away, vogue that away or dazzle it away with glamour. We can go to court. We can take smarter political action. We can form broader coalitions. We can respect and support our diversity.



When the fundies stormed City Hall a few weeks ago, they made a key strategic decision to surround Lou Sheldon with a phalanx of African-American bodyguards. Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland.

We have not learned how to temper our actions, to support the diversity among us in the same way our assailants have rallied together around a common cause. Like Kathryn Hepburn in *African Queen*, Sheldon arrived at SF's City Hall surrounded at high noon by Black ministers. That was a tactical stroke of genius, inasmuch as few A-list gay white men are seen with dark men until after dark. The breach between Black gays and white gays still looms before us, not to mention the breach between the Black community and the gay community. Black gay activists encounter unique problems of noninclusion. By in large, gay middle-class whites ignore them. White trash resents them. Black trash is jealous. The Black middle-class considers them outsiders, and many Black-on-Black gays consider Black gays active in the gay community traitors.

One of the secular tenets this country is based on is freedom of expression, not moral control by either church or state. Gays should appreciate that privilege of expression and exercise it prudently. Along with freedom goes responsibility. When Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., mounted his civil disobedience campaign, he kept extremism and the rougher edges in the Black community out of public view. The gay community has some loose cannons who suffer from the same arrogance as do our foes. Some among us will not listen to reason, are blind to any perspective but their own. Loud, shrill voices prevail before the cameras when cool heads and experienced leadership would better serve community interests.

Many white gay activists have been silent when white privilege has worked in their favor, just as some light-skinned Blacks have succumbed to "passing" as white. Many white gay activists are defensive about their complicity in one kind of oppression while seeking relief from another. Whites, both gay and straight, have been criticized for retaining their power and not sharing control.

White gay activism is like one note from one instrument while the rest of the band ain't playing. White perception is often different from that of non-whites. It is time for the full orchestra to play. But white gay activists are not prepared to finish the symphony, to hear the difference and improve communal harmony, which many see as a secondary issue—even now, as we are under systematic attack and in total disarray. Some gay leaders are political prisoners. Some are overwhelmed, drowned out or burned out by apathy and confusion.

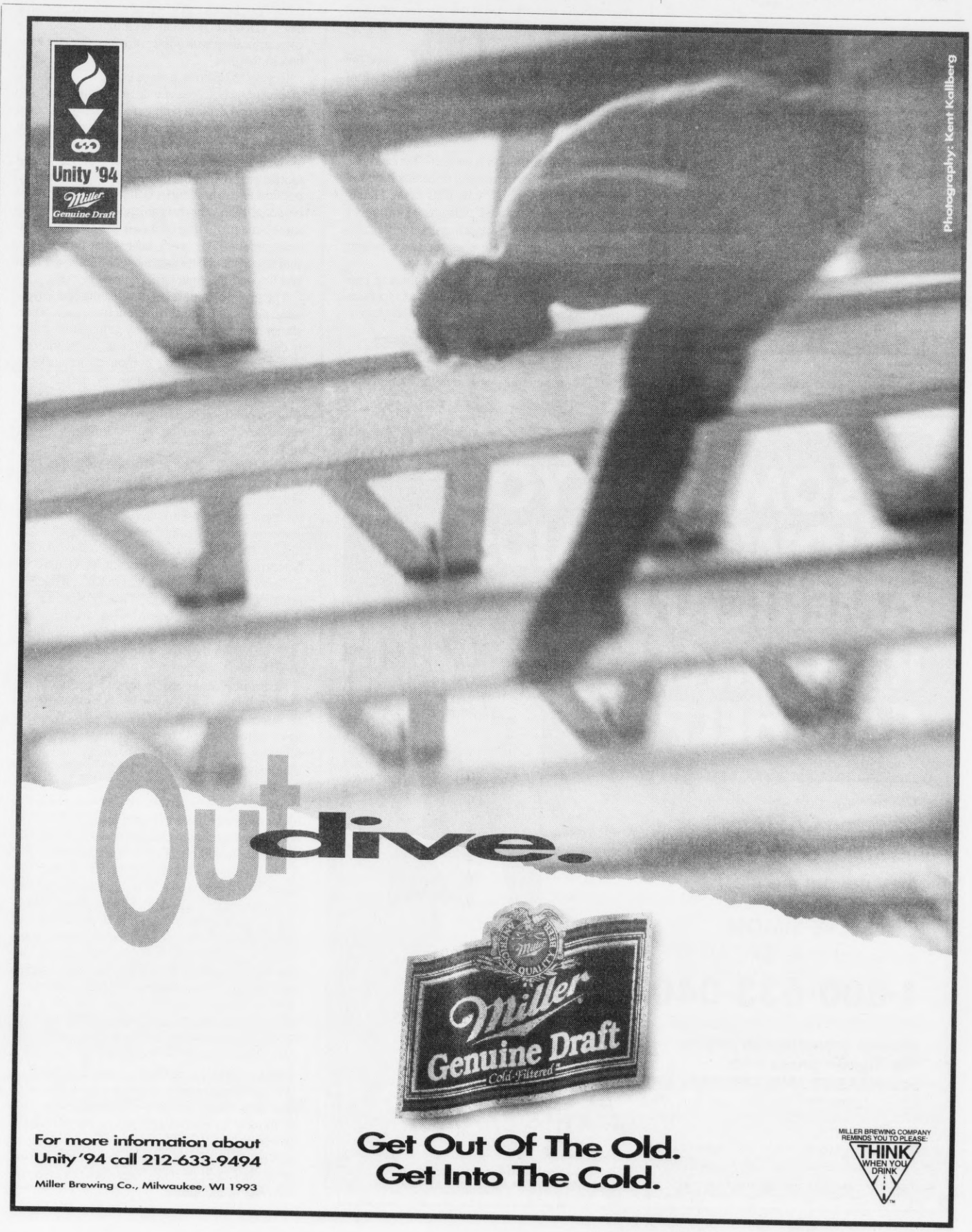
GETTING OUR HOUSE IN ORDER

Essential to the future is the healing of our spirit and moving forward toward constructive coalitions. That may involve stepping on some toes, making some changes, inviting some people off stage and others on, setting some appropriate standards of behavior to suit the occasion. Blacks in the South did a lot of walking before they were able to ride in the front of the bus. Changing prejudice at an institutional level is more difficult than changing individual attitudes. Someone who is prejudiced does not have to act on his or her personal feelings. Someone who is not prejudiced personally may support discrimination, because they don't want to challenge prevailing attitudes or appear different. We must pay for the change we cherish, each in our way.

Speaking out is hard to do. But when we do not speak out, we surrender our power. We all want to be accepted, to find respect and dignity. But we must learn to challenge those who find it difficult to accept difference (ours or someone else's) and move their perceptions beyond stereotypical levels. Attitudes and perceptions of the majority are internalized and fulfilled by some minorities. The status quo rewards its keepers, some of whom are gay. Gays must decide what are essential changes and what they can do to bring them about. Gays must learn the difference between leaders who contribute to change and leaders who toe the line. How we respond to this crisis in faith and human freedom may well shape the rights of lesbians and gays (and human rights) for years to come.

These are pivotal times and a time of crisis in our leadership. Once we move beyond our tribal zones, as we must to succeed, we can explore our common dreams, our concerns, our frustrations. Communication is essential—people connecting with people.

Genius knows no race or class. We have already seen what fools can do. People who otherwise would not come together must find hope in coalition with each other. We can invest in our destiny together or surely fail separately. ✿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aids treatment news by john s. james

AIDS Activism Where Do We Go From Here?

Where is AIDS treatment activism heading for the future? We see several themes: If mainstream research continues steps toward improvement, the slow shift from confrontation toward other kinds of advocacy will continue. The key to getting things done is the professional consensus of physicians, researchers, and officials; advocacy can influence this consensus when our positions have important merit.

Demonstrations have had less role since the passing of the hostile national administrations which had ruled since the beginning of the epidemic. The main problem now is with Congress, where demonstration is seldom the remedy of choice.

When a demonstration is needed—for example, against a rogue pharmaceutical or healthcare company, or public official, who flies in the face of enlightened professional consensus—what we may really need is a comprehensive *media campaign*, with demonstration as one tactic among many.

We must do MUCH better in organizing people to communicate with their elected representatives and other public officials when necessary.

THE NEXT STEP: NEW AFFINITY GROUPS?

The vision that most interests us, for either gay or AIDS organizing, is a network of greatly enriched affinity groups. Activists have long used affinity groups for coordinating actions at demonstrations and dealing with arrests. Similar support groups form around individuals with AIDS, to care for them as their health declines. From these experiences can grow a kind of group which provides the personal support which a good family or church can give, while also supporting more effective political organizing, especially communicating with public officials, than we have had in the past.

Organized affinity groups could offer security in time of trouble, assistance in keeping one's life together and dealing with the world, professional or job contacts and opportunities, ways to meet people, and cultural and educational advantages, as well as medical and service referrals, and mutual support for the otherwise solitary work of political letters and calls. Affinity groups are more personal than other organizations, while at the same time providing channels for national communication. They work best when they have a shared cause, one that goes beyond the individual and beyond the members' mutual benefit.

The groups should be self selecting and governing, and may be quite different from each other; some, for example, may be religious, some mainly cultural, some mostly political, some international, and some using computer networks to connect people who seldom or never meet physically. Some may focus on a specialized task, such as coalition building with a specific constituency, or countering misinformation in the media.

While the size of the groups will vary, they may work best with fewer than 12 or 13 people—which is generally considered the largest size that can function without a bureaucracy. Leaving a few potential "slots" empty may facilitate external links with other groups. [This model works for Concerned Women for America (CWA), described in the "Fight the Right Action Kit" of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force as "a multi-issue organization with tremendous grassroots organizing skills and an innovative '535' program they use with great effectiveness to influence Congress."

According to an article by Steven Gardiner, Research Director, Coalition for Human Dignity, also reproduced in the NGLTF kit, CWA may have "the most effective multi-issue, grassroots lobbying organization in existence... Seven individuals, including a prayer leader, form a prayer group; seven such groups form a chain; and seven chains form a local chapter of CWA which is run under the direction of a chapter leader... Chapters are under the direction of a regional director who reports to the national CWA headquarters." The "535 program (435 Representatives and 100 Senators) instructs all CWA members to drop an avalanche of letters and phone calls on legislators and public officials at both their Capitol Hill and home offices"; the chapters remain autonomous on local issues. Where there is no chapter, individuals who inquire are directed to a regional coordinator for assistance in forming one.]

The AIDS community may choose a less hierarchical model, with national or regional organizations making action and policy suggestions, and focusing on providing the leadership necessary to make the whole movement a success. What seems to count is the close personal association, which most political organizations, modeled loosely on business meetings, do not readily provide.

We believe that the affinity group, in one form or another, will be a key ingredient of effective activism in the future.

New Task Force for AIDS Drug Development

In a major new effort to overcome the obstacles to effective AIDS drug development, a high-level task force including government agencies, the pharmaceutical industry, other physicians and scientists, and the AIDS community, will recommend and implement ways to avoid past roadblocks and streamline the discovery and testing of new AIDS drugs. This task force, to be composed of decision makers such as heads of agencies and presidents or vice presidents of pharmaceutical companies, will report to Dr. Donna E. Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services, who has the authority to implement changes across Federal health agencies when required.

The new panel, the National Task Force on AIDS Drug Development, will be chaired by Dr. Philip Lee, Assistant Secretary for Health, and will consist of 15 members. The other 14 have not yet been chosen, and the public can make nominations through the month of December.

Participants in the Nov. 30 press conference which announced the Task Force included: Secretary Shalala; Assistant Secretary Lee; Dr. David Kessler, Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration; Dr. Harold Varmus, Director, National Institutes of Health; Dr. P. Roy Vagelos, Chairman and CEO, Merck & Company, Inc.; Dr. Edward Scolnick, President, Merck Research Laboratories; Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director, Office of AIDS Research, National Institutes of Health; Ms. Kristine Gebbie, National AIDS Policy Coordinator; Mr. Moises Agosto, National Minority AIDS Council; Mr. Derek Hodel, AIDS Action Council; and Mr. Victor Zonana, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, HHS.

The Task Force will be administered by the Office of AIDS and Special Health Issues of the FDA. Dr. Randy Wykoff, the director of that office, told *AIDS Treatment News* how this panel differs from other groups in the past:

"One, this Task Force is highly focused on drug development; it is not a broad mandate on AIDS. Second, it will be the first process of this type that will make recommendations to the HHS Secretary, who has the authority and ability to implement them. Third, this will be the first time that we have this kind of commitment with everyone at the table; industry buys in, we have community support, and all aspects of government are there. The Task Force can make recommendations that will make a difference.

"This Task Force will direct its efforts in two ways. One is toward any roadblocks that currently exist, either in perception or reality, that if removed would improve the likelihood of bringing good products into clinical trials and ultimately into clinical practice.

"The task force will also ask if there are any good creative ideas that should be tried at this point. Without criticizing what has been done in the past, it is legitimate to say that it's almost 1994 and we still do not have highly effective agents. Is there anything different that we should try—such as new approaches to screening products, new approaches to sharing information, or different approaches to toxicology, or clinical trial design, or regulatory processes? It will be useful to have a high-level body, one that can implement recommendations, look and decide where to go ahead."

SHALALA, LEE STATEMENTS

The following sections from the statements of HHS Secretary Shalala, and Assistant Secretary (and Task Force chairman) Lee, provide background on the Task Force and the approach it is expected to take:

Dr. Shalala: "The National Task Force on

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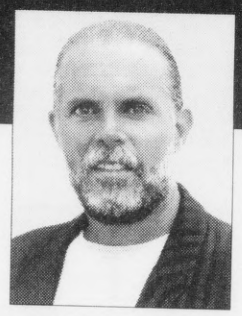

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AIDS Drug Development, which I am announcing today, has a clear and critical mission: to identify, and remove, any barriers or obstacles to developing effective treatment. It will make certain that all possible productive avenues are pursued with vigor.

"The members of the task force will be drawn from government, the pharmaceutical industry, academia, medicine, and the AIDS-affected communities.

"This represents an unprecedented high-level collaboration among leaders in the field. . . .

"But the sad fact today is that not a single New Drug Application for an antiretroviral agent awaits FDA approval.

"No matter how much we shorten the pipeline, we cannot achieve our goal unless we start filling that pipeline with promising compounds. That is the purpose of the new panel."

Dr. Lee: "To continually evaluate strategies and tactics and to build consensus, collaboration is required. Full participation is needed between government agencies, industry, the medical community, academia, and individuals who are HIV infected, as well as those affected by the epidemic. Too often in the past, needed links have been missing or relationships have been adversarial, resulting in unnecessary duplication of efforts or potential drugs not being developed and evaluated as rapidly as they might, or utilized most effectively.

"While working to remove the barriers, the Task Force will not scrap innovative and creative approaches used in the past. The Task Force will build on them. It will build on the innovations that have taken place at NIH. It will build on the regulatory initiatives implemented by the FDA. It will build on community-based efforts to improve the quality and direction of clinical research. And it will build on efforts to bring together people working to find effective treatments of AIDS and HIV-related disease.

"From the start, the Task Force will seek input from numerous groups including the Institute of Medicine, the Future Directions of AIDS Research Project, and the many Federal Advisory Committees that have done ground-breaking work in AIDS drug development. Open collaboration and communication are essential to move forward.

"The first meeting of the Task Force will be held this winter—or at the latest—in early spring. Over the next thirty days, nominations will be sought from the public as to who should serve. Public nominations will help create a task force that is composed of people with both competence and compassion and the diversity that is reflective of the epidemic.

"The Task Force represents a very important step forward and I hope it may be a model for other issues. For the first time in the fight against HIV-related disease, the United States will have a systematic over-arching effort to coordinate drug development to treat HIV infection and HIV-related diseases. The Task Force will serve as an example of how government and private leadership can be used to focus national resources on national problems. By working in partnership—the pharmaceutical industry, the not-for-profit sector, private citizens, and the government, can and will get results."

COMMENT

No one can be sure what will come from this effort—or what any medical research might produce. While it is impossible to guarantee results, we can and must bring the right people, resources, procedures, and commitments to the job. The creation of this Task Force shows that, finally, there is the national commitment to the kind of coordinated program that can get results.

To nominate persons for the Task Force, write to: Dr. Randy Wykoff, Office of AIDS and Special Health Issues, FDA, Room 12-A40, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Nominations must be received in December. The Public Health Service will compile them and make recommendations to Secretary Shalala.

New Study: Tat and NF-kappa B Inhibitors Work MUCH Better Together

In a potentially important laboratory study published December 1, a research team at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School found that two different drugs (the Tat inhibitor recently abandoned by Hoffmann-La Roche [Ro 24-7429], and pentoxifylline, a prescription drug) worked much better together in a laboratory test than would have been expected from how well they worked separately—so much better that the concentration of both drugs could be reduced almost ten times to still produce the same effect as the larger concentration of each substance alone.

The mechanism of action of both of these drugs involves a part of the HIV virus known as the LTR (long terminal repeat). When the LTR is activated, it causes the virus to reproduce. But there are at least two different, independent pathways to activate the LTR. One is stimulated by the Tat protein, which is produced in HIV-infected cells but never in normal cells. Another is stimulated by NF-kappa B, a substance which is normal and necessary in the body. When both stimuli are present, they can cause a "superactivation" of HIV—as much as 60 times the effect of each one alone. [The laboratory test reported did not test the drugs on live HIV, but instead used a genetically engineered cell developed to easily screen for substances which inhibit the LTR.]

The new study suggests that the combination of both drugs might be an effective treatment, even if each one alone is not sufficient.

Ro 24-7429 was abandoned after a report at the International Conference on AIDS (June 1993, in Berlin) that it did not show an antiviral effect in patients—even though blood levels should have been enough to produce that effect. But there have been a number of questions about whether it was abandoned too early. There are rumors which we plan to investigate further—one, for example, that some people in the trial never took the drug, but gave it to friends who were more seriously ill but who could not get into the trial themselves.

If you have any information about human use of Ro 24-7429— especially anyone taking it either with pentoxifylline, or with antioxidants such as NAC or vitamin E—please contact *AIDS Treatment News* at (415) 255-0588.

AIDS Treatment News, *a twice-monthly newsletter, is available by subscription; about half of each issue is reprinted in* SF Bay Times. *For a sample issue, call (800) TREAT-1-2, or send a SASE to: ATN, PO Box 411256, SF 94141. To protect your confidentiality, we mail first class without mentioning AIDS on the envelope.*

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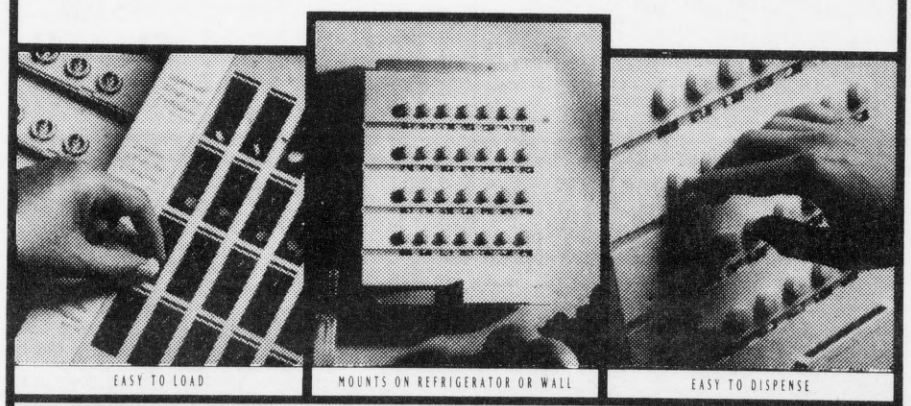

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Letters...

(continued from page 3)

individuals, events, organizations or other items of interest. Please remember that the Cable Car Awards have become a reflection of the progress and contributions our community has made to San Francisco, as well as those we continue to make to each other. We, the Cable Car Board of Directors, greatly encourage the participation and dialogue from the community regarding our 20th Anniversary Show and we look forward to a most outstanding 1994! Please note that the deadline for nominations from the community is Jan. 4, 1994, and all correspondence should be sent to: PO Box 421687, SF 94142-1687. Thanks and happy holidays from the 1994 Cable Car Awards and Show Board of Directors.

Linda Parios
Secretary/PR Committee
1994 Cable Car Awards and Show

Queers, Save the Churches!

Gay Bay Areans need to remember to keep themselves free from drifting into a social and cultural ghetto, with its dehumanizing gay-ghetto mentality. If gay liberation means anything, it is, ironically, that awful "A" word, "assimilation," which the gay ghetto-ites deploy.

We, as queers, simply belong in each and every institution of American society and of Western Civilization and that is what assimilation is all about: integration, not separation.

Currently the San Francisco Bay Area is about to lose some of the Roman Catholic churches in San Francisco which are beacons of San Francisco's architectural, social, and cultural history. Unfortunately, today's San Francisco has far too many churches because of both the demographic changes of the past 20 years and the church-leakage of worshippers in the aftermath of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965).

Yet, the Archdiocese of San Francisco needs to re-consider the tremendous loss to the architectural heritage of the San Francisco Bay Area by the closure of these five architectural and historical gems: 1) The Sacred Heart Church on Hayes Hill in the Western Addition reflects the Florentine Romanesque-style selected by pioneer San Francisco architect Thomas J. Welsh. Built in two parts, 1897-1898 (for its tower and nave) and 1908-1909 (for its transepts and chincel), Welsh's Sacred Heart Church reminds Bay Areans that we are all Italians because we are all heirs of the Italian Renaissance.

Let's face it, in a city bearing the name of St. Francis of Assisi, this Florentine tower captures and preserves the very spirit of San Francisco. Its preservation is essential to San Francisco's soul. 2) The Church of All Hallows at Newhall Street and Palou Avenue in Bayview is San Francisco's only surviving Roman Catholic Carpenter Victorian Gothic church. It is also San Francisco's oldest (1886) Roman Catholic church, except for Mission Dolores (1791). All Hallows' New England Meetinghouse-style is a cultural echo of Boston in San Francisco—and remember that Californians are "Greater Bostonians" as heirs of Lexington Green, Concord Bridge, and Bunker Hill. 3) The Church of St Francis of Assisi in North Beach has lovely Norman French Gothic towers—and institutionally this church was the first Roman Catholic parish to be established in San Francisco and in California (June 17, 1849). 4) St Joseph's Church, Howard and Tenth Streets, South-of-the-Slut, dedicated on November 22, 1914, is probably the finest architecture designed by native San Franciscan John J. Foley. 5) The Church of the Holy Cross, Eddy Street between Scott and Divisadero Streets, the Western Addition, was designed in 1897 by Frank T. Shea of San Francisco. This church is probably, together with Bryan J. Clinch's glorious St. Jospeh's Cathedral in San Jose (1875-1877) a masterpiece of ecclesiastical neo-classical architecture in Northern California.

Queers, raise your voices to save these churches which culturally belong to all Bay Areans.

James F. Gibbons
San Leandro

The lights dimmed at The Wild Wild West store on Market Street on World AIDS Day. Photo by Rink.

Taking The Offensive

Thomas M. Edwards, gay Republican, master craftsman of the succinct, pithy editorial missive, misses the point in his letter suggesting a symbiotic relationship between fundamentalists and radical anti-christian queers ["Symbiotic Relationship," *SF Bay Times* Letters, Dec. 2] Perhaps a more detailed exposition would treat the issues with the seriousness that they deserve.

First, who enters the arena of politics first? Queers are content to limit our exercise of control to our own lives. All we demand is tolerance from civil society. The fundies, not content to control what is solely theirs, enter the political fray from a more empowered position (tax break-subsidized political activism) and with the goal of the creation of a theocracy.

Second, to what end do they enter politics? Theirs is an exclusionary, faith-based politics that has declared war on us. Along with the right wing, they have the power (and tax breaks) to implement it. Their secular partner is the party to which you belong, which has traded in homo-hatred with the fundies for millions of votes; not to favor the Democrats, but the pile of bodies over the past 13 years should make any sane lesbigay run screaming from that Log Cabin of greed and hatred.

That mythology acted out through the politics of hatred is given legitimacy is disturbing enough. That you equate attempts to deny basic rights of queers with resistaance by queers to such attempts shows your suicidal belief in the liberal ideology that all ideas, even those that would eradicate liberal rights of certain groups, enter the marketplace of ideas with equal currency. In a basically homophobic, pluralistic society in economic decline, there is no place for such hatred in the political sphere. Attempts to challenge such opportunistic hate politics through direct action are intelligent acts of self-preservation, to be commended, supported and joined.

They have declared war on us, and the battlefield are talk radio, government at all levels, and you body. The armories are the churches and their ta breaks and the cash cow that is the Republican Party. Are we supposed to sit around and vote until we are surrounded or should we fight back and take the offensive?

Marc Salomon
San Francisco

Dismayed By Decision

The following letter was sent to SF Mayor Frank Jordan

We are greatly dismayed with your decision to replace Lawrence Wong on the Human Rights Commission (HRC).

One would hope that you originally appointed Wong to serve on this important city commission because you wanted a human rights advocate who would passionately defend the basic rights of all San Franciscans. Yet, Wong is being replaced specifically because he did speak out on human rights issues.

When Wong advocated for the removal of Eugene Lumpkin from the HRC after Lumpkin made homophobic comments which supported violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation, it was a human rights issue. And, when Wong supported a resolution denouncing immigrant-bashing and helped to give you your first veto override at the Board of Supervisors, this too was based on a human rights issue.

Wong's advocacy on behalf of both of these issues is no less than San Franciscans expect and demand of their Human Rights Commissioners.

We are especially dismayed by your callousness in replacing Wong with someone who happens to be gay and believing that this is sufficient. Replacing an Asian-American gay man who is active in both communities with a white gay man who no one has ever heard of is a slap in the face of both the Asian/Pacific Islander community and the lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender community. While Earl Rynerson may be a wonderful person, will he be the vocal and accountable community activist that a Human Rights Commissioner must be?

We urge you to show our community at least a modicum of respect by reopening a dialogue about who should be representing us in City government. Our community deserves a real voice in City government, and we will do what is necessary to ensure it exists.

Sincerely,
Executive Committee
Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club
San Francisco

Think First, Publish Later

During the recent election held earlier this month, the *B.A.R.* and the *Sentinel* endorsed a vote of no on Proposition C and Proposition 172. Both papers

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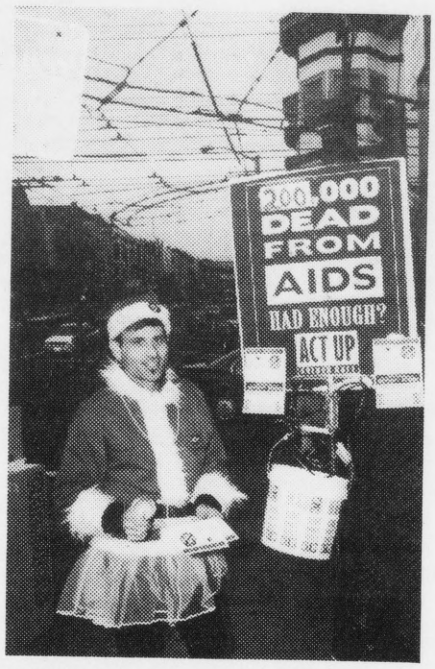

ACT UP/Golden Gate Santa-in-a-tutu collected money at 18th & Castro. Photo by Rink.

took the position that it would only add to an already bloated bureaucracy. In San Francisco the extension of the ½ cent sales tax, that was scheduled to go to police and safety, would allow general fund dollars that were threatened to be cut from social programs to continue. It is reprehensible of a paper that purportedly supports the wishes of the lesbian/gay community to take a stance on a position without first examining the issue in full.

If the ½ cent sales tax had not passed, it is almost certain that services at San Franicsco General Hospital would have been cut, the effect this would have on HIV-positive people (most of whom are gay men) in this city would have been devastating. Substance abuse services and counseling services to the lesbian/gay community would have been cut or in some cases even closed. This comes at a time when most of the services have waiting lists for people trying to access services, which indicate a need for more services, not less.

We would ask of the media that come from our community to fully examine the ramifications of a position they choose before publishing it in the paper.

Keith Folger
Chair, the Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual
Substance Abuse Task Force.

NAMBLA Promotes Child Abuse

Regarding Kripie Corie Prince's letter lamenting that once again NAMBLA is being sold down the river to gain status. [''People, Wake Up!'' *SF Bay Times*, Letters, Dec. 2] I feel I should clarify what NAMBLA is all about. This organization condones child abuse plain and simple. Spare me the tired rhetoric about how this well-meaning group is trying to help these young men and women discover their sexuality, they can do this very well by themselves, thank you. What NAMBLA is trying to do is get in on the action under the guise of offering help. There have been mass murderers that were homosexuals, and our community felt no need to stand behind them in support of their crimes. I can see no difference with NAMBLA. The more we distance ourselves from this organization the better.

Bob Vargas
Santa Rosa

The Importance of the Laundry List

Hooray for Mike Schaefer (''The Women [and Men] Inside,'' *SF Bay Times*, Letters, Dec. 2) who pointed out the absurdity of always expecting transgender attributes in gays. While the boundary between gay (lesbian/bisexual) and transgendered is sometimes a fuzzy one, with some individuals having a foot in both worlds, it is a disservice to imply there is no difference.

As a heterosexual post-operative transsexual, let me tell you that sword cuts both ways. In a slow, painful, coming-out process over the last half-year I've become more and more queer-identified. (A queer hetero? Double yikes!) An activist on several fronts, I've found it harder than necessary to present my issues given the mainstream assumption that TS rights is a ''gay issue.''

While we are all one greater community, we need to differentiate each subgroup, particularly in the eyes of the outsiders. Thus the importance of the laundry list, as in gay, lesbian, bisexual *and transgendered*—by including everyone on the list, we can point out who we *aren't* as well as who we are.

Yours truly,
Kathy Jones
San Francisco

Recognize NAMBLA? Never!

Krispie Prince (''People, Wake Up!'' *SF Bay Times*, Letters, Dec.2) has a legitimate beef that it is time that the gay and bisexual communities—indeed, the whole of American society—must recognize the fact that teenagers are actively exploring their sexuality. One only needs to read the government statistics on teenage pregnancy to see that.

But Prince needs to ''get real'' and recognize the fact that the North American Man Boy Love Association is an organization of pedophiles, not gay men. The time has come for Prince and other NAMBLA supporters to face the reality that there is a distinct difference between homosexuality and pedophilia.

NAMBLA's denials that it is a pedophile group are belied by the fact that it has steadfastly refused to accept any age of sexual consent, even a lowered one. Its denials are further belied by the fact that its own publication, *The NAMBLA Bulletin*, regularly features photographs of boys who look far too young to be teenagers.

And let's not forget, NAMBLA has no lesbian counterpart. There is no North American Woman-Girl Love Association. It's a point that must be remembered, for studies of pedophilia repeatedly find that there are no female pedophiles.

Our current age-of-consent laws are ridiculously archaic, but if NAMBLA believes that society—including many gay and bisexual people who are parents of young children—will tolerate a total absence of an age of consent, then it is totally out of touch with reality.

As a bisexual man who was sexually abused as a nine-year-old by my own uncle, and who is now an uncle himself (I have seven nephews and one niece, all of whom are under 14), there is no way I will tolerate the absence of any age of consent. It should be lowered, but by no means should it be abolished.

In some states, the law allows girls as young as 14 to *marry*—but the bride must have her parents' consent, and the groom must be no younger than 18 years of age. I am realistic enough to know that society won't tolerate an age of consent at 14—especially in the wake of the wave of child abuse cases hitting the airwaves and newspapers.

The most realistic age of consent that society will tolerate lowering to is 16, which is the minimum age most states require you to be to obtain a learners' permit to drive.

A lowered age of consent, yes. A total abolition of age-of-consent laws, no. And recognition of NAMBLA as a gay orgnaization while it refuses to accept any age of consent, *never!* Its stubborn, vehement campaign of disinformation and ''politically correct'' psychobabble only perpetuates NAMBLA members' delusionary denial of their pedophilia.

Sincerely,
D.B. Sanders

Don't Ignore Child Sex Abuse

While I pride myself in being a ''politically correct left-leaning liberal'' I was appalled at the color fold-out safe sex manifesto, ''Good for Life'' published by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Specifically, the passage, ''It's not about who I'm having sex with *or even how young...* '' is deplorable. I support the gay pride movement, and the emphasis on safe sex for all. And I understand the intent of the brochure. However, to dictate that youth is irrelevant in choosing a partner ignores the very real suffering of childhood sex abuse victims. It *does* matter how young he/she is. And AIDS is not the only tragedy which can result from thoughtless or irresponsible sex.

Valeri DeCastris, MS
Springfield, Illinois

What Families Do

Family values, family values, family values. We hear the words so often, but what exactly do they mean? Well, I've recently come to know what they mean. And what *real* family values are all about. My lover recently died of AIDS. He had been diagnosed 3½ years ago and had multiple opportunistic infections during that time. Any one of those infections could have killed him, and several nearly did on numerous occasions.

Back in June, we had a scare where I had to rush him to the emergency room at 5 am because he was passing blood and was so light-headed he could bare-

(continued on next page)

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(continued from previous page)

ly stand. I did what many of us do in a time of crisis: I called a close friend, and said "Help." He was dressed and had driven over to our house within 10 minutes. There were no apologies for the inconvenient time. No excuses. No formalities. No questions asked. Just "I'll be right over." He was "family," someone who I could count on, no matter what. To me, that's real family values.

From the emergency room, my lover called his family in Ohio and said he wanted to see them before it was too late. His parents flew out the next day, even though they hate to fly. Never mind that he's gay and has AIDS, he was their son, and he wanted them. So they came. And his four out-of-state brothers came also. That's real family values.

As Phil got sicker, I took 3 month off from work. A number of co-worker friends took up a collection and gave us a gift certificate for waiters on wheels. They were trying to help in any way they could. It let me know that I was not alone in this. That's what families do.

When it became overwhelming for me, I asked some close friends to help me out. At first it was 8 people, then other friends heard of our group and asked to join. It soon grew to 20. We met once a month and passed a calendar around. People would sign up to come and spend time with him and let me get out of the house. As he got sicker, we had to account for every minute; he didn't want to be alone. We did this for nearly four months, people putting their lives on hold so they could spend time with a dying friend. Someone they loved and cared for. That's what families do.

After he died, I took a photo to the infusion center to show a favorite nurse of his. I thanked her for being there for Phil, even though she must see so many patients come and go. I knew it must be difficult to open herself to so many with a terminal disease. And she said, "I'm honored to have known him. I'm the one who is grateful." It made me cry. Such beautiful humanity: caring and giving from the heart. That's family values.

These values are not owned by a legally married husband and wife, with all the accompanying children and in-laws. The real bonds of families are not legal ones, they're the bonds of friendship and love. The gay community has expanded our own extended families as we've dealt with AIDS. Yet we are rarely acknowledged for our own families of friends. Our biological family may come rushing across the country in times of crisis, but it is our family of friends who are here for us, day in and day out, year in and year out. I stand proud of my family, as they have stood by my lover and me. I know what real family values are. I know we have them. For love makes a family; nothing more, nothing less.

Rick Peard
San Francisco

No Smoke, No Tip

I've decided that whenever I can't smoke after a pleasurable meal, then I won't have time to tip, because I'll have to run outside to "drag" on my usual after-meals cigarette.

Rich
San Francisco

"Testifying for Life," a concert benefiting the Black Coalition on AIDS and The Ark of Refuge, rocked Civic Auditorium on Dec. 1. Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland.

Honor Guard

I'm in the Oakland area for two weeks, having just arrived from North Carolina. I read and enjoyed Keith Hartman's article on the Durham, N.C., Creating Change Conference.

I agree very much with his thoughts on what our agenda should be and what it is. What does NAFTA or the Gulf War have to do with the gay agenda?

It was my American flag—given to me by Jesse Helms—that was carried by the Veterans' Day Honor Guard. While I was recalled for the Gulf War for 14 months, the flag was presented for service prior to the Gulf War. But thanks for mentioning this in the article. Also, three of the four members of the honor guard are on active military duty. The fourth was either a vet or a reservist.

Bob
Durham, NC

Religious Right—Repent

While I am grateful that you published my letter ["Toward Freedom and Responsibility"] in the Dec. 2 issue of the *SF Bay Times*, a regrettable error was made in the last sentence of the third paragraph. The word I wrote, "heterosexuals," was mistyped as "homosexuals," changing the tone of this paragraph entirely. The point I was trying to make, which may have been lost as a result of this error, is that irresponsible behavior ("sin") applies to all. For instance, cheating on one's lover and risking HIV infection is a problem for heterosexuals and homosexuals. This confronts the true sinfulness of the Religious Right's view on homosexuality. They make no distinction between responsible homosexuals and heterosexuals and irresponsible homosexuals and heterosexuals. Because they fail to fully support lesbians and gay men who seek to live in loving and honoring relationships, the Religious Right's dogma in fact fosters damaged and damaging behavior ("sin").

It is time for the Religious Right to repent its cruel statements against homosexuals, and what better time than the Christmas season, when throughout the world people are celebrating the birth of the baby Jesus, born some 2,000 years ago. All that we know about this child is found in one book. Proclaimed in this Holy Bible is the simultaneous assertion that the infant Jesus was both fully human and yet uniquely, mysteriously connected with God. In many ways the Bible raises far more questions than it answers, which may well be its divine purpose. When their time comes to stand before St. Peter at the Pearly Gates, anti-gay preachers like Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson and Lou Sheldon may have a few questions to answer themselves, and they would be wise to study now in case there isn't a Bible handy then.

If Jesus was fully human, Mr. Falwell, he must have had sexual feelings, and do you know what Jesus' sexual feelings were? Was Jesus married or single? Was he celibate or sexually active? And where, Mr. Robertson, would you get this information? It is not contained in the Bible. If fully human and born out of the birth canal of a woman, wouldn't Jesus have gone through puberty, voice changes, pubic hair and erections? These are essential facts of what it means to be fully human and yet, how do you explain, Mr. Sheldon, that the Bible contains no information whatsoever about Jesus from the time of his adolescence—really his birth—until he began his ministry at the age of 30-something? And, Mr. Falwell, how do you account for your self-righteousness in judging all homosexuality as sin, for the Bible has not one word from Jesus to quote on the matter? And, anyway, wasn't Jesus executed for his radical ideas of love? Re-read your Bible, Mr. Robertson. Wasn't Jesus sentenced to death by the religious authorities immediately after he raised Lazarus from the dead? Have you forgotten about Lazarus, Mr. Sheldon? The man for whom Jesus wept. The man everyone knew Jesus loved. Re-read the Fourth Gospel, Mr. Falwell. Aren't you hoping that Jesus will call you out of the grave as he did Lazarus? Be careful, Jerry, Pat and Lou, when you condemn gays. You don't know whose Mother's Child you are crucifying.

Perhaps the best way to stop the Religious Right's hate-filled stance on homosexuals is for lesbians, gay men and bisexuals to fill San Francisco's poorly attended churches this Christmas and join in giving thanks for the birth of the baby Jesus, a true teacher of God's wondrous love. However, when the offering basket comes around, rather than giving money, consider leaving a note instead. Perhaps the name of someone you love who, like Lazarus, has died from disease. Or a prayer, in Jesus' name, that the church stops condemning homosexuality. You may be surprised how quickly the church gets your message.

Peter Larose
Steering Committee Member, United in Spirit
San Francisco

Adult Responsibility

Children are not small adults. They are children and, as such, are influenced by adults they trust. Often they cannot truly distinguish between their own wants and needs and what those adults suggest their wants and needs are. There is a power difference between children (including adolescents) and adults in the same way—except more so—that there is between executives and those who work under them. This power difference requires care by the executives to avoid sexual harassment. And this is in dealing with adults. Children and adolescents may have desires of their own, may have rights to make their own choices and to be adult-like in ways—but they are not yet adults.

The apparent choices of children are often more the feeling or belief that, if this adult they admire wants something, they should do it, maybe even want it themselves. Sexual activity that's not truly a matter of choice can cause tremendous problems. And I don't believe we can ever say sexual activity between an adult and child is truly the child's choice.

We as adults are responsible for our children. While giving them rights and choices, we cannot negate that responsibility in the name of freedom of speech and choice. While there may be children, now adults, who were not hurt by sex with adults (those claiming benefits may have benefited just as much by non-sexual love and attention), I do not believe sex between adults and children to be a matter of true choice for children. Due to the differences between adults and children, sex is an imposition by the adults.

Let us be adults. Man/boy love is not freedom. Let us be unafraid to oppose it.

Donna Freeman
San Francisco

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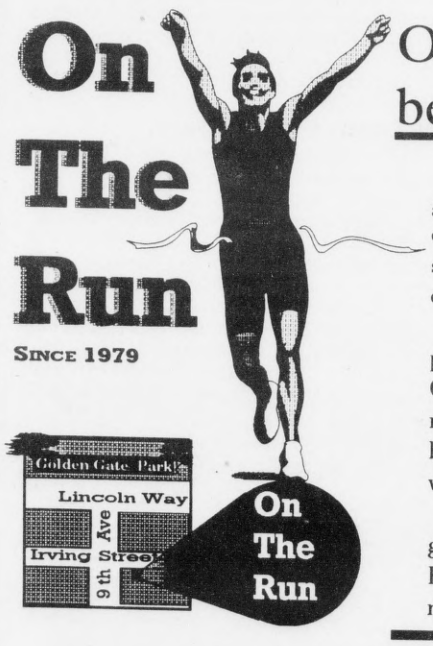

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Merry, Merry Christmas!!!

Well my gay friend Peter had a Birthday and Christmas party (and I'm not allowed to say how many years in print!) and anyway he was so sweet he invited both me and Doug—and I'm sure we were the only suburban "straight" people asked to the event—but I ended up going with Lois (which was fine with Peter) and Doug stayed home with the boys, and it turned out that while I was at the party I got the idea for a subject for Straight Talk since I couldn't help but notice that all the gay guys and gals were MAKING FUN of Christmas—which is my favorite time of year personally—and it just made me wonder whether there was some gay thing going around about hating the Holidays (although I have to say that Doug himself is a bit of a Grouch around this time and the other day he told Timmy that "Santa won't come if you sing Christmas Carols in the house" which Thank Goodness I overheard and I tried to explain that Daddy was just making a joke and Santa loved Carols but I'm not sure he believed me since he DID stop singing and I was JUST a little annoyed with my husband I'll say!).

So anyway I asked my sister and her little group of friends who were all talking in a corner what they thought about Christmas and Carol said she didn't HATE Christmas but she hated the "False Cheer" as she called it (and I know I feel "cheery" with all the lights and songs and bells—and it's not "false" at all!) and Ghislaine said she couldn't get away from the "frenzied commercialism pervading the airwaves" and I think it was Deb who started complaining about Black and Decker and the very notion of electronic power tools as symbols of Christmas spirit and someone else brought up the subject of that sparkling wine TV ad that has that little song that keeps repeating over and over and over and over again while two glasses clink on the screen and I must say that every year by the end of the Christmas Season even I am a little sick of that song: "DING dingy ding, DING dingy ding, DING dingy ding"—you must know the one. So the girls were starting to make their point and they were being very funny and one of them pointed out that all the stores are presenting their wares as "gift ideas," even if they're just selling hardware supplies or underwear, and she said she wouldn't be surprised to see 7-11 start advertising "gift ideas" like six packs of coke or Slim Jims for GrandDad, so they all started laughing some more and I found it hard to argue with them so I went over and found Peter and asked his group if they thought the Gay Community could relate to the "Christmas Story" and I must say Peter and HIS friends were worse than the girls (and they had all been drinking) because Sandy said he thought the shepherds were "cute" and Peter said he always loved the outfits the angels wore, and someone else said the Gay Community LOVES the idea of "immaculate conception" and then he wondered if Joseph was gay—which I thought was taking the jokes a little too far, and THEN they all started in on the notion that "Three Queens" would have been better than Three Kings and they came up with dialogue off the top of their heads like: "Oooo MARY, will you just LOOK at that child!" and "Here Honey, Have some Myrrh!" and so forth which I felt was very inappropriate considering we were discussing the Baby Jesus but they were all laughing so I didn't want to be a "wet blanket" and I moved away when they

weren't looking and kind of walked around the party by myself for awhile and I went up to look at Peter's Christmas tree and he had hung all sorts of strange "ornaments" like little naked Ken Dolls with pins in them and even a plastic man's "thing" with a flashing red light at the tip and I guess I was frowning when I tried to take a closer look at it because one group of fellows I THINK were laughing at my reaction which made me feel silly and out of place.

So anyway Ghislaine came up to me just then and asked how I was doing and I told her I just didn't see why everyone seemed to enjoy putting a "damper" on the Holiday spirit and she said she just thought people here (at the party) were enjoying their own style of Christmas and she thought the meaning of Christmas and the other holidays (I keep forgetting about Hanukkah and I understand there's a new African one too, sorry!) was strong enough to withstand "distinct manners of celebration" (or something like that—you know how she talks) and I asked her what SHE thought the meaning of Christmas was and she said that to her it was a time for humility and Peter had joined us and said that that was "well put" and then pointed out that some of the fellows in the room wouldn't have many more Christmases to celebrate which was a VERY depressing thing for him to say at such a happy time of the year, so anyway I tried to think of something cheerful to say after THAT comment but I couldn't come up with anything and later when I thought about it driving back to San Rafael I really didn't agree with the "humility" meaning because to me, the meaning of Christmas is more "joyous" as they say because after all we ARE celebrating an Important Birthday and giving presents to people we love and so forth and it occurred to me that if gay people feel "humble" and straight people feel "joyous" no wonder we like Christmas better than you folks because it's a lot more fun to be joyous than humble (if that is in fact the gay meaning—I don't know!).

So I asked Doug about it and he was far more interested in why Lois had stayed at the party and with whom and so forth and in fact she had been talking to some gal who had said she lived in Marin so that was no problem, and I told Doug that I wasn't even sure that I had EVER felt "humble" (not that I'm egotistical or anything) and he said how about when the boys were born and it hadn't occurred to me to put a name to THAT feeling but I guess humble might be part of it in a weird way, and I asked him whether he felt more humble or joyous and what he thought about putting up little Ken dolls on the Tree for heaven's sake and he said his current Christmas spirit was "intense fatigue" and fell asleep WHILE I WAS STILL TALKING TO HIM if you can imagine that! ✿

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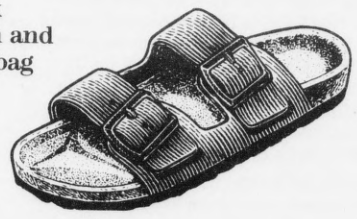

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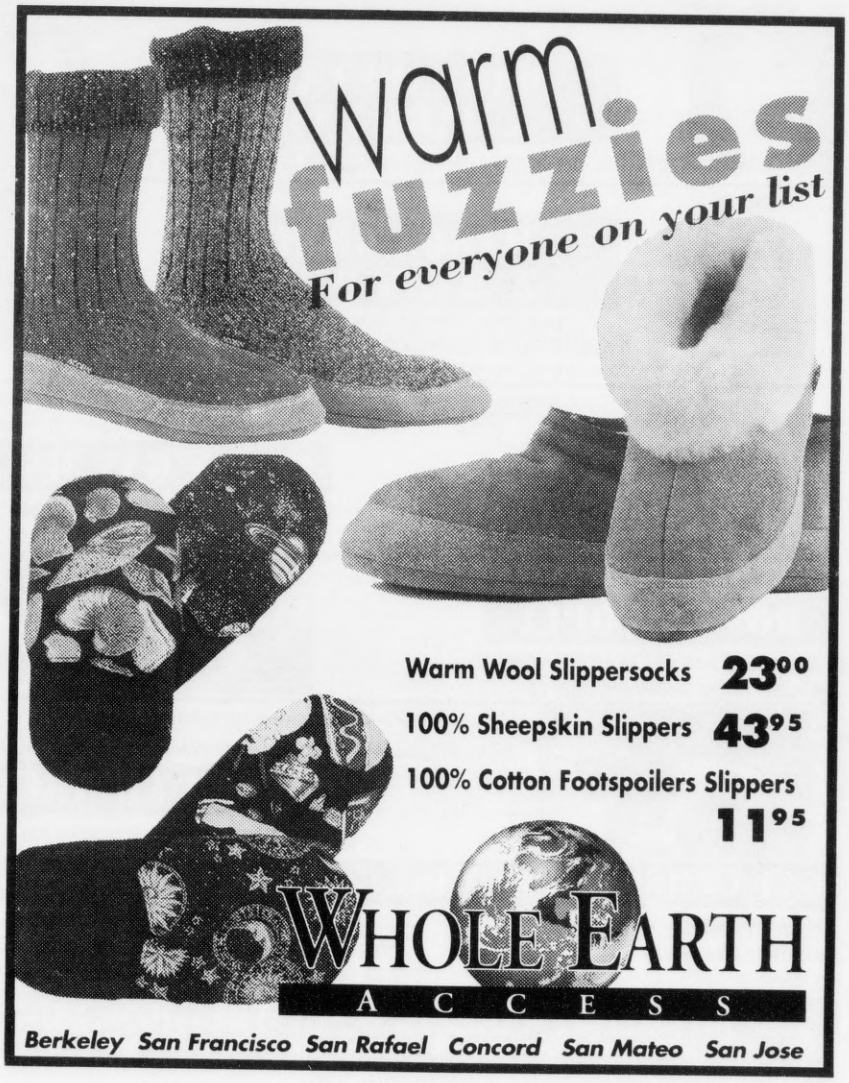
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(astrology)

BY JACK FERTIG

Sweetness & Blight

This is the time of year when sensible people want to lace the drinking water with insulin. I'm even tempted to use something considerably more permanent. Right about now, people who normally wouldn't piss on their mother if she were on fire are chirping inanely about the spirit and cheer of the holiday season. Kneecapping is too good for them.

A liturgist reminds me that in the Christian calendar, the Christmas season is properly the 12 days from Dec. 25 to Jan. 6. The preceding month of Advent ought to be a time of quiet meditation and anticipation, sort of a milder version of Lent.

So on the one hand we are overwhelmed with Christians profaning their own religion (but the neo-pharisees of the reactionary Right do that all the time!). On the other side we have a secular holiday sanitized of its essential history and reduced to a mindless orgy of mindless consumerism bathed in robotic expressions of sentiment. The religious trappings remain only as window dressing for the pressure to spend one's way into outrageous debt and participate in the neurotic dramas of nuclear family reunions.

All of this, while the Sun is in Sagittarius. This debases a month well devoted to spiritual searching and solitude, lowering to the cheerily shallow side of this sign. With Mercury and Venus now engaged in a long conjunction through Sagittarius, the mortally cute expressions of lobotomous sentimentality are bound to be especially gross. Alas, this excellent time for shamanic journeys is too likely to yield to a parade of moonies in plastic antlers.

SUN SIGNS

ARIES: Usually you're not the hearts-and-flowers type, but now you're inclined to put a bit of romance and creativity into your seasonal correspondences. You may even be told that your creative writing is good enough to publish. That just might be more than friendly flattery. You may also enjoy focusing on the spiritual side of the season, exploring your religious tradition in greater depth. Any linguistic talents you may have—however minuscule they may be—are now enhanced, so it's a good time to learn any prayers in Hebrew, Latin, Yoruba, Erse or whatever may enhance your observance. Or learn a few phrases for a vacation. Time is also ripe for a getaway.

TAURUS: Everybody's a little more eloquent than usual these days, but your particular gift right now is in elucidating those challenges that seem to tie everyone else's tongues even now. You could focus on pleasure through these longest nights as your erotic eloquence is quite magnificent. Your fine attention to feeling and passion could also help delineate the liturgical details of any ritual. You could also prove amazingly supportive in helping people to work through issues of grief.

GEMINI: Despite the holiday frenzy, this is an excellent time for you and your partner to work out any problems you may have. The general atmosphere lulls you both into waxing poetic and cooing sweet nothings, but this is an excellent time to turn your current boost of charm and insight to more serious matters. Of course, if your partnership is trouble free, enjoy your billing and cooing! If you're partner-free, your currently more-than-typical eloquence and grace will help you to draw special attentions that could easily lead to something more permanent.

CANCER: This time of year typically finds you busy at home, cleaning for guests or cooking for everyone. Your chores, domestic or otherwise, now take on a special comforting quality. Keeping busy seems to reassure you of the affection you share with those you're preparing for. This good cheer can easily extend to your workplace. Bringing in some home baked goodies will definitely make your co-workers more amenable. With all the holiday fare going around, you want to be careful of your own intake. You're easily tempted by rich foods and now your metabolism is a little erratic. It's probably nothing serious, but at least your waistline (and just maybe your liver) is looking for a chance to explode.

LEO: Your creative juices are flowing so freely and sweetly that you may consider giving out your own poetry or artwork as presents. Usually you are a lot of fun; now you are even more so. It seems that the holiday bug has infected you big time. Your playfulness and wit are especially suited to children right now. In fact, you may be a bit much for most adults to handle, so the more time you spend with kids, the better. The little ones seem to think so too, especially as you are now just one of them.

VIRGO: One of the things we dread most about this time of the year is all the family-related pressure. You are in fact unusually well favored by the stars to deal with family issues. The amazing truth is that you typically handle family situations pretty well this time of year. Affability is not usually associated with your sign, but that quality does come out well in domestic situations. Right now you can also claim an extra dose of charm and eloquence. This can be an ideal time to patch up differences. If you're already getting along with everybody, you can intermediate for those who aren't.

LIBRA: Your normal grace and charm are now tremendously enhanced. In this most saccharine season you may be having a wonderful time, but you could also be a bit much for some others. Chirping at the idiosyncratic that they mustn't be a "scrooge" or a "grinch" is not only a good way to get your stockings shoved right up your chimney, but should be grounds for justified homicide. Back off! Don't fret. There are plenty of people who are just as happy to have the general level of seasonal insipidity boosted by Santa's ubiquitous cheerleaders. You will surely enjoy each other's company. Save it for them, or I'll have to explain to the cops how you committed seppuku with a chainsaw.

SCORPIO: Money is now flowing through your fingers. Unless you're very careful and very determined to save, this could turn out to be a very expensive few weeks. You may well be able to afford it. In fact, it's all up to you whether you express your charm through your wallet or whether you'd rather use your charm to earn some extra pocket money. One does not exclude the other. In fact the easier it comes in, the more you'll find yourself spending. This can be a good time for investments, too. Just take a moment to think about any and all transactions. With some careful thought you could find yourself affording to be generous and still coming out well ahead.

SAGITTARIUS: Your sign normally tends to be a bit ebullient, but nowadays you are the personification of charm, grace, and wit. Well... certainly charm. No doubt you are getting into the swing of the season. Please be considerate and watch where you swing it. Not everybody gets into this Xmas stuff. In fact some people do find such things as anthrax and genocide to be more uplifting than all this holiday garbage, so use your normal conversational agility (which is currently well beyond normal!). You can easily remain congenial and respect diversity of opinion simply by allowing the conversation to veer off toward other subjects. *Happy Birthday, Athena McMahon!*

CAPRICORN: This time of year I always like to think that dear old Ebenezer Scrooge was a Capricorn; sensible, industrious, skeptical—even contemptuous—of the self-satisfying seasonal charity that vanishes every January. Ah, but what a smug, stupid ending to *that* book! As for the seasonal charity, this season shows you at your best giving of your time and resources to those in need. Visiting hospitals or ladling out meals will definitely help you as much as it will help others. You may prefer to practice charity from a place of comfortable seclusion, emphasizing instead the privately spiritual aspect of the season. This is a second best choice, but still a good one. *Happy Birthday, Katie Tindall!*

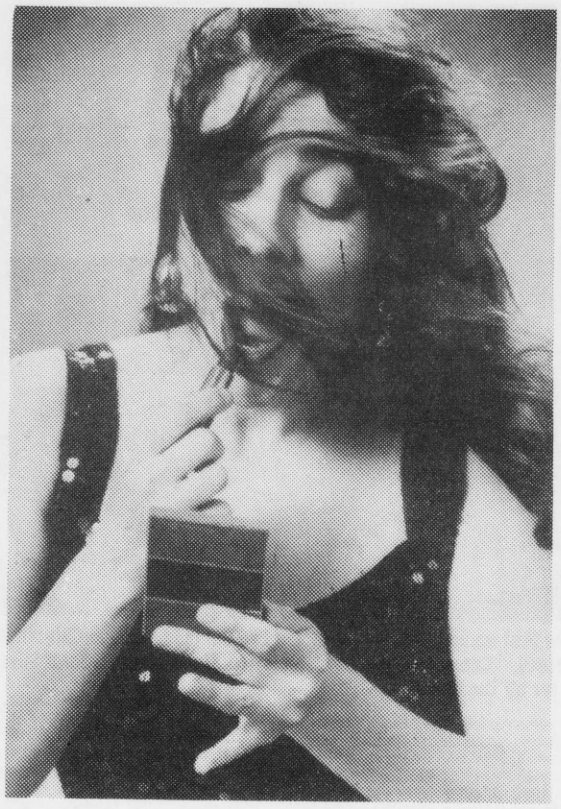
AQUARIUS: With all the parties of the season, you are easily in big demand right now. Usually a wonderful party guest, you are now so vivacious others may expect you to glow in the dark. Your own usual reserve may crumble a bit as you are unusually aware and expressive of your own wishes and desires. This should help you to get them met as well as to prompt more forthrightness from others. You may put that forthrightness to altruistic or other ends. You are already unusually keen to others' desires right now, so you may pick the perfect gifts or succeed in some Machiavellian political ploys.

PISCES: Everyone is being more than usually gracious and eloquent, and it's not just "The Season." For all that, you are getting unusual notice for your repartee. You can build your reputation as a charmer and a wit at any social event, but you are also well advantaged to turn that sort of attention to professional advancement. As long as people are being so cozy with each other, you can get along particularly well with folks in charge—bosses, parents, cops, whatever—and promote yourself accordingly. ✿

THE SAN FRANCISCO
BAY TIMES CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE BAY AREA

coming Up

COMPILED BY
MAXINE MORRIS



Local gal Marga Gomez comes home for a six-night stint at Josie's, Dec. 28-Jan. 2; plus Karen Ripley and Tom Ammiano star in their annual "A Year to Dismember: 1993. A Queer Year in Review." See Dec. 30 for details. Photo of Marga Gomez by Irene Young.

DEC 16 / T H U

Voices of Pride Open House: Organization dedicated to providing resources & support to gay, lesbian & bisexual youth and families in Oakland/Alameda County holds a reception/open house to announce the birth of a new Mentor-Leadership Program, and to provide information to gay, lesbian & bisexual professionals and business leaders interested in participating in this program. 5:30-7:30 pm. Voices of Pride Resource Center for Sexual Minority Youth, St Paul Lutheran Church, 1658 Excelsior Ave, Oakl. Info/directions: (510) 530-8529.

BALIF (Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom) Annual Holiday Party: 5:30-8:30 pm at Square Bar & Restaurant, 405 Mason St (btwn Geary & Post), SF. Hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, entertainment. $5 donation.

At ClaireLight Women's Books: Sark, author of *Inspiration Sandwich* and *Creative Companion* reads from her newest books, *Sark's Journal & Playbook* and *Living Juicy*. 7 pm. 519 Mendocino Ave #101, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.

At Sisterspirit Women's Bookstore: Author Melissa Kwasny reads from her new novel about three turn of the century women whose lives intertwine, *Trees Call for What They Need*. 7:30 pm. 175 Stockton Ave, San Jose. Info: (408) 293-9372.

"Sports Conditioning: The Importance of Cross-Training," a lecture by Carol Emold, RN. Examination of techniques on reaching overall body conditioning. 7:30 pm, free. Info: 292-1223. Jewish Community Center of SF, 3200 California St, SF.

1993 Christmas Revels: 8th annual event at the Scottish Rite Theater, featuring Appalachian, gospel & Shaker music, dance & tradition. Produced by SF Bay Revels. This yearly staging of a joyous 19th century American Winter Solstice celebration includes processionals, ritual dances, drama & songs by a cast of over 100 adult & child singers, actors & dancers. The audience participates in several songs, including "The Sussex Mummers' Carol" and "The Lord of the Dance." Features folk singer Jean Ritchie, saxophonist Stan Strickland, baritone John Langstaff & gospel singer Alan Carter. Program also features dance performances by contra-dancers group, *Hillbillies From Mars* and *931 Cloggers*, all-woman clogging troupe. Schedule: 12/16 at 7:30 pm, 12/17 at 8 pm, 12/18 at 3 & 8 pm; 12/19 at 1 & 5 pm. Tix $12-25. 1547 Lakeside Drive, Oakland. Info/res: (510) 841-6334.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets 7:30-9:30 at MidPeninsula YWCA, Palo Alto. Tonight's topic: The Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group—Who are we? What do we do well? What could we do better? All women are welcome! Info: Marilyn (415) 583-1649 or Lynn (408) 737-9229.

Get Smart: ACT UP/SF discussion series continues with "Compassionate Release," a discussion focusing on compassionate release (CR), the practice of shortening the prison sentence of terminally ill prisoners so they can die among loved ones. Forum explains the procedure now in practice and offers suggestions for improvement. 7:30 pm at the Women's Building, 343 18th St btwn Valencia & Guerrero, SF.

New Horizons social/support group for lesbian, gay & bisexual adults ages 21-29 meets tonight & 12/30. 7:45-8 pm drop-in time for first-time visitors, 8-9:30 pm group time for everyone. Spons by Spectrum. Info/location: 457-1115 or 457-3523.

At Small Press Traffic: Readings by author Jorge Argueta (*Love Street* and author Jack Hirschman (*The Back of a Spoon*). 8 pm, $4.

"Warm Up the Winter," Erotic Reading at Old Wives' Tales Bookstore: Annual popular end-of-year event. This year's program features readings & performances by contributors to *Largesse*, volume 4 of erotica by and for full-figured women. Night of mad, passionate (sometimes kinky) lust reflecting both straight and bisexual perspectives. 8 pm, $3-10 SL donation (no one turned away for lack of funds). 1009 Valencia St, SF. Info: 821-4676.

"Risk-Gay," Scott Capurro in his one-man comedy show at Josie's Cabaret. Capurro explores the events & characters leading to his coming out in the male-dominated national & international comedy scene. Night of honest & hilarious self-exploration, featuring "guest appearances" by his mother, five other parents and his first sleazy sex partners. Show runs at 8 pm thru 12/19. Tix $10 Tues-Thurs & Sun, $12 Fri & Sat. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

Blessed be the Bitch: Spoken Word with Dominique Lowell, Marci Blackman & Eli Coppola at E'Space, 800 Hayes St, SF. 8 pm. Followed by open reading. Info: 861-4657.

Blues great Earl Thomas appears at Blues, 2125 Lombard St, SF, tonight & 12/22 & 29 at 9:30 pm. Don't miss!

Posada at El Rio: A benefit for Mexicanos Sin Fronteras, an organization promoting immigrant rights in the US and social justice in Mexico. 10 pm-2 am, $5. Pintas, tamales, music with DJ Chata Gutierrez & Mongrel. 3158 Mission St at Precita, SF.

Guava Jelly Club at the End Up: jazzl and funk grooves with *Charlie Hunter Trio*. 10 pm-2 am, $5. 401 6th St at Harrison, SF. Info: 543-7700.

At the Elbo Room tonight: soul/funk/rare groove with *Soulvation*. 10 pm, $2. Valencia near 17th St, SF. Info: 552-7788.

DEC 17 / F R I

Concentus Chamber Ensemble of the SF Bach Choir with David P. Babbitt, conductor. Spanish Renaissance madrigals and traditional Christmas carols. 12:15 pm, free, donations for performers are welcome. Star Classics Recital Hall, 425 Hayes St, SF. Info: 552-1110.

"Taiwan's Quest for Recognition: The International Response," a talk by Senator Parris Chang, PhD, foreign relations co-chair, Taiwanese Parliament, and president of the UNPO Steering Committee. Spons by the Unrepresented Nations & People's Organization. 4:45 pm reception, 5:15 pm discussion. The Commonwealth Club, 595 Market St, SF. Tix $9.

The outrageously funny Karen Williams at Mama Bears. Night of comedy for women—8 pm, $10. Women only. Info/res: (510) 428-9684.

Scott Capurro in "Risk-Gay" at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/16.

1993 Christmas Revels: Annual performance extravaganza featuring Appalachian, gospel & Shaker music, dance & tradition. See 12/16.

At Small Press Traffic: "Passing it on: Untying Tongues: 3 Black Gay Poets Speak" with Wayne Corbitt, author of *Crying Holy;* Marvin K White of the acclaimed performance group, Pomo Afro Homos, and Marci Blackman, author of *Black Holes*. 8:30 pm, $4.

Toontown Rats at ATA: Artists' Television Access presents another program in its animation/comix festival. See new work by Nicolai Grut, Big Twin, Amy Balkin, Nathan Vogel and others. Show features SF's hottest comic zines, including an all-new collection of "The K Chronicles" by Toontown curator and *SF Weekly* cartoonist Keith Knight. 8:30 pm, $5. 992 Valencia St, SF. Info: 824-3890.

Club nZinga: Global Dance Party at El Rio with DJ Mongrel. 9 am-2 am, $4 tonight & 12/24. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.

Blues with Earl Thomas at The Blue Note, 39 Petaluma Blvd North, Petaluma. 9:30 pm. Also see 12/16 listing.

Lesbian Comedy Night at Josie's Cabaret with Karen Ripley & Suzy Berger. Hilarious dyke humor—don't miss! 10 pm, $10. Info/res: 861-7933. 3583 16th St at Market, SF.

"Kiki & Herb Roasting on an Open Fire," a holiday songfest at Eichelberger's. Kiki & Herb (Justin Bond & Kenny Mellman) translate their holiday depression into showbiz history with songs ranging from favorite yuletide chestnuts all the way to radio hits from a leading SF girl band. Show runs every Fri at 11 pm, open-ended. Tix $7. 2742 17th St, SF. Info/res: 863-4177. Dynamite show, guaranteed to chase the holidays right out of you—don't miss!

DEC 18 / S A T

Marin Headlands Work Party with Gay/Lesbian Sierrans. Help GLS do native plant restoration on the recently-rehabilitated Miwok Trail. Work followed by spaghetti feast in Sausalito at a GLS member's home and an optional evening stroll along the Sausalito waterfront. Info: 281-5666 (voicemail).

Lake Chabot Run with Eastbay Frontrunners: Take I-580 east to 150th Ave exit. Turn left at 2nd traffic light onto Fairmount Drive; continue on Fairmount over the hill. Lake Chabot Marina entrance is on the left. Parking fee, street parking is free. Meet 9 am, at entrance end of parking lot. Info: Roz (510) 939-3579 or Greg (510) 482-4391.

Corona Heights Grasslands Restoration Work Party: Residents of the Castro, Haight & Buena Vista neighborhoods are invited to help preserve & restore one of the last remaining native grasslands in SF. 9:30 am-noon. Meet at the Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt Ave), btwn 14th & 17th Sts, SF. Info: Tom 252-0651.

Holiday Crafts Fair at Berkeley Farmers' Market: Crafts by local artists, fresh California produce, plus live choral music with the BCCO Chamber Group. 10 am-2 pm, free admission. Center Street at Martin Luther King Jr Way (adjacent to Civic Center Park, aka Provo or Martin Luther King Jr Park), Berkeley. Spons by the Ecology Center. Info: (510) 548-3333.

Gaia Bookstore Holiday Booksigning: Today & tmw, 10 am-6 pm. Today's authors: Susan Seddon Boulet (*Goddess & Path of the Shaman* calendars), Starhawk (*The Fifth Sacred Thing*), Mary Mackey (*The Year the Horses Came*), Houston Smith (*The World's Religions*), Cathleen Rountree (*On Women Turning 50*), Adriana Diaz (*Freeing the Creative Spirit*) and Naomi Epel (*Writers Dreaming*). Call ahead for specific times. (510) 548-4172. 1400 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley.

2nd Annual Benefit Book Sale spons by Intersection for the Arts. Noon-4 pm. Great prices on new & used books of all kinds. 446 Valencia St, btwn 15th & 16th, SF. For more info or to make donations call 626-2787.

Year-End Drawing Party hosted by Mark I Chester for Gay Men's Sketch and other interested sketchers. Classical nude modeling by Ron Sims. Free with food to share. 2-6 pm, 1229 Folsom St, SF. Info/res: 621-6294.

"Barbra" sings her Christmas album at tonight's special event, "A Happening in SF to Stop AIDS". 5-7 pm at the outdoor ATM courtyard at the Bank of America building, 18th & Castro Sts, SF. Donations welcome (proceeds benefit the Stop AIDS Project.)

Christmas Dinner Party with Girth & Mirth Club of SF. Come dine at a popular Castro area restaurant. Info/res: 824-0260.

Songwriter's Showdown at the Sacred Grounds Cafe. Part of Sacred Grounds' weekly "Anti-Social Series". Tonight's program is a benefit for Neighbor to Neighbor/Single Payer Health Plan. 8 pm. 2095 Hayes St, SF.

A Baroque Singer's Christmas: Concert with the Oakland Symphony Chorus, featuring organist Jonathan Dimmock. Audience is invited to join in singing Vivaldi's "Gloria," followed by seasonal carols. Program also includes Bach's "Motet IV (Lobet den Hern) and Pergolesi's "Magnificat". 8 pm, optional pre-concert rehearsal of the Vivaldi for audience members at 7 pm. Tix $15 & $10 gen'l, discounts for stdnts & srs. Kids 12 & under, $5. First Presbyterian Church, 2619 Broadway at 27th, SF. Info: (510) 444-5767.

Scott Capurro in "Risk-Gay" at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/16.

1993 Christmas Revels: Annual extravaganza of Appalachian, gospel & Shaker music & dance, see 12/16.

"In Nova Cantica: A Celebration of Christmas," concert by the SF Early Music Society. Program spans five centuries of music from five countries (Germany, England, Scotland, France & Spain). Medieval & traditional carols, secular songs, sacred motets & Magnif-

icats, German chorales & cantatas; also instrumental dances & divisions. 8 pm at First Congregational Church, Dana & Durant Sts, Berkeley. Tix $16 gen'l, $14 srs, $8 stdnts. Info/res: (510) 528-1725.

A Chanticleer Christmas Concert: Bay Area's premier a cappella vocal ensemble performs its annual holiday concert at St Ignatius Church on the USF campus in SF. 8 pm tonight, 7 pm tmw. Program features Renaissance masterworks, seasonal favorites with new arrangements, medieval songs & joyful spirituals. Tix $19 gen'l, $16 stdnts & srs. Info/res: 392-4400.

Songwriters for Single Payer Health Care: An eclectic night of music by Bay Area songwriters (Kip Allert, Lee Goland, Judith-Kate Friedman, Stephen Yerkey, Ian Butler, Mike Tharp) to benefit Neighbor to Neighbor, SF's campaign for a single payer health care ballot initiative. 8-11 pm at Sacred Grounds Cafe, Hayes & Cole St, SF. Info: 824-3355.

Barry Manilow in concert at the Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor St at Market & Golden Gate Aves, SF. Two shows only! 8 pm tonight, 3 pm tmw. Tix $35-60. Info/res: BASS (415) 776-1999 or (510) 762-BASS.

Improv Comedy & Music at Mama Bears with Over Our Heads (Karen Ripley, Teresa Chandler, Annie Larsen, Marion Damon). 8 pm, $8-10. Women only. Info/res: (510) 428-9684.

"A Season of Diversity," concert by the Sacramento Men's Chorus. 8 pm tonight, 3 pm tmw at St Francis Church, 1112 26th St (btwn K & L streets), Sacramento. Tix $10 in adv, $15 at door, general admission; $20 adv, $25 at door, preferred seating, with private reception. Info: (916) 444-5213.

At Red Dora's: "The Cross-Pollination Show" with Justin Bond & Kris Kovick, plus Masha Gessen, Robin Stevens, Mary Wings & Miss Betty Pearl and *Minnie Pearl Necklace*. Tonight's show is a benefit for GLAMBLA, "a 'non-prophet' organization that promotes cross-dressing among drag queen minors, baby royalty & tiny divas". Neckties & cigars for the girls. 8 pm, $5. 8 pm, $5. 485 14th St, SF.

Avant to Live! Artists Television Access' Other Cinema series features program of radical work attacking assumptions about the limits of cinematic expression. Featured artists include Rock Ross, Steve Bade, Betsy Weiss, Gibbs Chapman, Larry Kless, Tim Wilkins, Kristin Cato, Kurt Keppeler, Steve Dye, Al Alvarez, Anne McGuire, Bob Paris, Fabio Roberti, Bruce Pollack, Eric Theise, Michelle Handelman, Glenn Mayfield & Eric Salter. 8:30 pm, $5. 992 Valencia St, SF. Info: 824-3890.

Other Cinema Series at ATA: Night of new experimental works by Rock Ross, Steve Bade, Betsy Weiss, Gibbs Chapman, Larry Kless, Tim Wilkins, Kristin Cato, Kurt Keppeler, Steven Dye, Al Alvarez, Ann McGuire, Bob Paris, Fabio Roberti, Bruce Pollack, Eric Thiese and others. 8:30 pm, $5. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St, SF. Info: 648-0654.

Bah Humbug! at Klubstitute, the homophile nightclub & cabaret, presents a "Klubstitute Kristmas in Never-Never Land" at the Peter Pan Lounge & Bar, 45 Turk St, Mason & Market, SF. Features Arturo Galster, Birdie & Chuck, Timmy Spence, Jennifer Blowdryer, Roxy Toxic, Flynn, Tony Vaguely, Deena Davenport & Robbie D, Lu Read, Hollywood Babylon and Family Home Entertainment. Plus the SF debut of Drench and the Ruby Rated X-Mas Revue: Jazizi Capuccino, Trauma Flintstone, Sasha Blue, Simeon 3rd Arm & Jordy Jones, Toni, Miss Emma Peel and Ruby Toosday. Also emcees David Hawkins & Diet Popstitute.

Komotion Annual Holiday Party: Half-hour open mike, followed by performances by Mat, Jess, Celeste-John-Chip, Judge, Mary Liz & Annika, Lisa Palty, Claude Palmer and a host of others. Doors open at 9:30 pm. Donations of any kind (money, toilet paper, plastic cups, light bulbs, computers, office supplies, etc) are welcome and deeply appreciated. 2779 16th St, SF. Info: 861-6423.

Gay Comedy Night with Karen Williams, Sabrina Matthews & Suzy Berger. 10 pm, $10. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

Alternative Music Night at El Rio with *Mermen, Dieselhed* and *Wolfticket*. 10 pm-2 am, $5. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.

At the Elbo Room tonight: Groove/Jazz with *Antibade* and *Soulvation*. 10 pm, $3. Valencia near 17th St, SF. Info: 552-7788.

DEC 19 / SUN

Support Group for Women who have been battered (emotionally, physically or sexually) by women lovers beginning soon. Free. Spons by the SF Network for Battered Lesbians & Bisexual Women. Call 281-0276 (voicemail) for info.

Gaia Bookstore Holiday Booksigning event continues (see 12/18). Today's authors: Z Budapest (*The Goddess in the Office*), Carolyn Shafer (*Creating Community Anywhere*), Carol Lee Flinders (*Enduring Grace*), Ruth Gendler (*Changing Light*) and Sue Bender (*Plain & Simple: A Woman's Journey to the Amish*).

"Hand to Hand Food & Gift Festival," a benefit for Project Open Hand. SF's largest family-oriented event in support of an AIDS organization. 11 am-5 pm in the Grand Ballroom of the SF Marriott, 55 4th St, SF. Chance for families to have fun sampling fabulous food, enjoying fine free entertainment (including some special kids' programs) & buying unique gifts. Tix $5 adv for adults, $7.50 at door. Kids under 12 are free. Info/tix: (510) 762-BASS or call CityLine (415) 512-2500 ext 4263 (HAND).

1993 Christmas Revels: Annual extravaganza of music & dance. Final day! See 12/16.

Author Pat Califia reads from and signs copies of her recent books, *Sensuous Magic* and *Melting Point*, 2-5 pm at Stormy Leather, 1158 Howard St, btwn 7th & 8th, SF. Info: 626-1672.

Can Capitalism Save the Earth? (Environment): A Special forum to commemorate the death of environmentalist Chico Mendes. Representatives from various organizations address the forum question, followed by question and answer session. 3-6 pm at ATA, 992 Valencia St, SF. $2-5 donation requested, no one turned away for lack of funds. Spons by Green Red Readers' Collective. Info: 647-5326.

Barry Manilow at Golden Gate Theatre. Final show—see 12/18.

Christmas at FireThorn: FireThorn Studio holiday art show/sale features work by established Bay Area artists including Lenore Chinn, Michael Geopferd & Jayne Shor, plus new talents Jeff Beers, Steve Compton, Sacha Eckes, Mark Hannan & Paul Moshammer. 4-7 pm at FireThorn Studio, 229 Valencia St btwn Duboce & 14th, SF. Fine painting, scupture, block prints & etching.

Winter Solstice Potluck Dinner spons by the Humanist Community of SF. 5 pm at Kate Talbot's home in Pacifica. Fun event with good food & conversation. Call ahead to let Kate know what you're bringing, and for directions: 359-5555.

Holiday Party spons by the Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual "Family" at SF's Glide Memorial United Methodist Church. 6 pm, donation. Proceeds benefit Glide's participation in the United Methodist Church's Reconciling Congregation Program (RCP) which challenges the Methodist Church to end discrimination against lesbian, gay & bisexual ministers and to ordain "out" ministers. Caffe Esprit, 499 Illinois, SF.

Winter Solstice Celebration spons by Spectrum Center's Women's Spirituality Group. Potluck & celebration at 6 pm in Corte Madera. Think of what you'd like to let go of and bring into your life for the new year. Bring your sacred objects for the altar. Info/location: 457-1115.

Holiday Potluck spons by Lesbian Visibility Task Force. 6 pm. For info/location, call 861-4588 & leave message for Trish.

A Chanticleer Christmas at St Ignatius Church, USF: Final concert! See 12/18 listing for details.

Starhawk & Luisah Teish lead "Healing Ourselves, Healing Our World," a winter ritual celebration sponsored by Harmony Network. 7-10 pm at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St near Valencia, SF. Tix $12 at door, $10 adv. Portion of proceeds benefit the Women's Cancer Resource Center. Info: (707) 869-0989.

Jam Against Mississippi Jail Lynchings: Features Oscar Meyer's blues band, Babatunde, Reggie Oliver Jazz Band & Freedom TROOP 187. 8 pm, $8. Ashkenaz Music & Dance Cafe, 1317 San Pablo at Gilman, Berkeley. Proceeds benefit the James Earl Chaney Foundation and Mississippi Coalition for Justice. Info: 821-6545.

Merry Christmas Party: Concert with r&b great Charles Brown at Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St, SF. 8 pm, $15. Info/res: 885-0750.

Scott Capurro in "Risk-gay" at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/16.

Sonya Hunter at the Freight & Salvage, with Steven Yerkey & Ed Haynes. 8 pm. 1111 Addison St, Berkeley.

Winter Solstice Celebration/Christmas Candlelight Service spons by Unity Center at Montclair Women's Club: An honoring of "the coming of the light" thru story, song & meditation. Includes sacred Tibetan Bowls Meditation. 9:30 am. 1650 Mountain Blvd in the Oakland hills. Everyone welcome. Info: (510) 874-4914.

DEC 20 / MON

Matrix Protest: The Anti-Poverty Coalition spons protest of the Matrix Program and a memorial service for the homeless who have died on SF streets over the past year. 5:30 pm candlelight memorial at Civic Center Plaza; 6:30 pm, silent march to Union Square; 7 pm program at Union Square, SF. Program includes entertainment by *Wise Puppet Intervention*, traditional carols performed by MCC (Metropolitan Community Church) -SF, song by Freedom Song Network, poetry by Nellie Wong and speeches by A Khn, Rosa Benard and a representative from Congressman Ron Dellum's office. Info: Campaign to Abolish Poverty, 397-4911.

What we've all been waiting for!! The first annual Jewish Christmas Eve Comedy Show in Chinatown: "An Evening of Kung Pao Kosher Comedy." Comedians (l-r) Stu Silverstein, Lisa Geduldig, Scott Silverman & Suzy Berger. Check Dec. 24 for all the info. Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland.

Bi-Friendly SF meets at 7 pm for food, drink & conversation at the Village Deli, 495 Castro St, SF. Bisexuals (and bi-friendly others) are welcome! Info: Pierre 648-6332.

DNCB Drop-in Support Group: Group offers support for DNCB users (both new & continual). Come learn about this promising treatment option. 7-9 pm at the EACH Office (next to Powell St Muni Station). 944 Market St, Ste 210, SF. Info: 292-4055 or ask for John at 403-3800. Spons by ACT UP/SF Alternative Treatments Committee & Brothers Network.

Gay Comedy Open Mike at Josie's Cabaret with emcee Hank Donat. 8 pm, $5. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

DEC 21 / TUE

Winter Solstice Celebration at Amron Metaphysical Center: Come celebrate the arrival of winter & the change of seasons with ritual & communion. Space limited, please pick up free ticket in advance. Call 775-0227 for details. Everyone welcome! 2254 Van Ness Ave, SF.

Bi-Friendly Eastbay meets 7 pm at Au Coquelet, 2000 University at Milvia, Berkeley. Info: Betsy (510) 845-7441.

At A Different Light Bookstore: Author Sarah Schulman reads from her novel, *Empathy*. 489 Castro St, SF. Info: 431-0891.

At A Different Light Bookstore: Best-selling lesbian author Sarah Schulman reads from her latest novel, *Empathy*. 489 Castro St, SF. Info: 431-0891.

Rhythm & Roots Night at El Rio with DJ Mongrel. 8 pm-midnight, tonight & 12/28, no cover. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.

A Bach Family Christmas with American Bach Soloists. Concert of music by JS Bach, JM Bach, Buxtehude, Kuhnau & Praetorius, plus "Midnight Mass for Christmas Eve" by Marc-Anotoine Charpentier. 8 pm, $20 gen'l, $25 priority seating, $15 stdnts & srs. First Congregational Church, Dana & Durant Sts, Berkeley. Info/res: 435-5235.

Comics Margaret Cho & Mark Davis at Josie's Cabaret: Two of Josie's most popular comedians team up for a Christmas week run. Show plays Tues-Sun at 8 pm, with an added 10 pm show on 12/24. Tix $10 Tues-Thurs & Sun, $12 Fri & Sat. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

"It's A Lavender Lounge Christmas," special re-broadcast of the popular holiday show, hosted by the wacky camp trio, *Acid Housewife*. 10 pm, SF Cable Channel 47.

At the Elbo Room: *Jazz with The Charlie Hunter Trio*. 10 pm, $3. Valencia near 17th St, SF. Info: 552-7788.

DEC 22 / WED

Advent Vespers Service at MCC (Metropolitan Community Church)-SF. MCC-SF choirs, guest soloists & instrumental ensemble perform music by Handel, Pinkham, Holst & Sweelinck, and festive carols, as a Christmas gift to the community. Everyone welcome, admission is free. 7 pm. 150 Eureka St (btwn 18th & 19th), SF. Info: 863-4434.

Margaret Cho & Mark Davis team up for a night of comedy at Josie's, see 12/21.

Chanticleer, SF's premiere a cappella male vocal ensemble, presents a holiday concert at Stanford Memorial Church, Stanford University campus. Program combines sacred & secular music, incuding works by Byrd, Mouton & Guerrero, and a carol medley arranged with familiar spirituals by music director Joseph Jennings. 8 pm, $19, $3 discount for stdnts. Info/res: 725-ARTS.

Earl Thomas at Blues! See 12/16.

Night of Rare Funk & Jazz Grooves at El Rio, 9:30 pm-2 am, tonight & 12/29. No cover. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.

At the Elbo Room: Latin/jazz/funk with *7 Powers*. 10 pm, $3. Valencia near 17th, SF. Info: 552-7788.

DEC 23 / THU

Faraway, So Close, Wim Wender's spritual thriller, sequel to *Wings of Desire*, opens today at the Bridge Theatre, 3010 Geary Blvd in SF and the Pacific Act Theatre, 2128 Center St in Berkeley (also Aquarius Theatre, 430 Emerson in Palo Alto & Town Theatre, 1433 The Alameda in San Jose). Info: The Bridge, (415) 751-3212; Pacific Act, (510) 548-7200; Town (408) 287-1433 or Aquarius (415) 327-3240.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets 7:30-9 pm at MidPeninsula YWCA, 4161 Alma, Palo Alto. Tonight's topic: Coming Out Stories. Come hear others, share yours! All women are welcome. Info: Marilyn (415) 583-1649 or Lynn (408) 737-9229.

Margaret Cho & Mark Davis at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/21.

"The Dykemare Before Christmas," featuring Santa Elvis Herselvis, *Alcohol of Fame, Stone Fox*. Plus bitches & goddesses, way cool wet t-shirt contest, cool Christmas loot and DJ Stefanie Phillips. Presented by Female Trouble at Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th St, SF. Info: 626-4455.

At the Elbo Room: Soul with Selector Kirk and *Flowerhead* 10 pm, $2. Valencia near 17th, SF. Info: 552-7788.

Xmas Crucifixion Rock Party with the *Hail Marys*, a "queer, glamorous, indulging-in-sexy" band at Brave New World, Fulton & Masonic, SF. Also appearing: *Paul's God*. 10 pm, $3.

Guava Jelly Club at the End Up: Acid jazz, hip hop and more with *Alphabet Soup*! 10 pm-2 am, $5. 401 6th St at Harrison, SF. Info: 543-7700.

DEC 24 / FRI

Christmas Eve Service at MCC (Metropolitan Community Church)-SF: Come enjoy a Christmas Eve service where you don't have to screen out the content for homophobia & misogyny. This lesbian/gay/bi/transgender fellowship offers 3 candlelight services (7, 9 & 11 pm), each with special music & communion. Everyone welcome! 150 Eureka St (btwn 18th & 19th), SF. Info: 863-4434.

Solemn Midnight Mass at Church of the Advent, an inclusive (gay-affirming & welcoming) church. Preacher Wiliam Rhodes. 11 pm service preceded by extended music prelude, beginning at 10:20 pm, featuring many carol arrange-

PARENTS & KIDS BOX

The Velveteen Rabbit: Annual production by ODC/San Francisco. 12/27-29 at Regional Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek. Dance/theater production choreographed by KT Nelson, based on the traditional children's tale by Margery Williams about a stuffed velveteen rabbit that magically comes to life thru the love of a little boy. Tix $8.50-$26.50. Info/res: (510) 943-SHOW.

The Rainbow Clinic at UCSF: Pediatric clinic for kids up to age 18 with lesbian & gay parents. Sensitive, supportive environment with healthcare by lesbian & gay providers. Support group offered for children of lesbians & gays, ages 10-18 (group meets biweekly). Info: 476-1777.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services Parenting Program provides a wide variety of parenting resources. For details, call 565-7674. 1748 Market St, Ste 201, SF.

The Alternative Family Project offers low-fee family counseling services for children, youth & families with lesbian, gay and/or bisexual members. Individual & family therapy and group therapy for young adults raised in gay-and/or lesbian-headed families is available. Info: Alternative Family Project 550-2621.

Randall Museum Programs: Workshops & classes for all ages; kids under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Plenty of free parking available. Sat workshops begin at 1 pm and last 1-2 hrs. Sign-ups begin at 12:30, call 554-9600 for details. **Saturdays in December:** 12/18: **Winter Solstice Celebration**. Roll a beeswax candle, make candlesticks, listen to stories about what is so special about this time of year, astronomically and personally. **Other Saturday Programs:** Free **"Animal Talk,"** at 2:15 pm every Sat. **Special Holiday Classes:** Includes ongoing classes, plus one-time workshops celebrating Hanukkah, Winter Solstice & Christmas. Two 4-wk ongoing classes include "The Artist's Workshop," a gift-making class for ages 6-12, and "Potter's Wheel Minicourse," for ages 9-17. Both cost $10. Saturday family workshops include "Hanukkah Menorahs" and "Bows & Boughs" wreathmaking. Workshops meeting during kids' winter break include "Colorful Kaleidoscopes," "Etched Aluminum Frames," "Calendar Workshop," "Dollmaking" and many others. Call for info. 199 Museum Way, SF. Spons by the SF Recreation & Parks Dept.

Bay Area Discovery Museum offers a wide variety of classes & programs for kids & parents. Adv reg required. Thai classical dancers, fruit carving demos, flower stringing and more. Call for program details. 557 East Fort Baker, Sausalito. Info: 332-7674.

Children's Progams at Ft Mason Center: **Make-A-Circus** offers participatory arts/social services, workshops, theater performances & community shows. Teens are encouraged to apply for the apprentice program. Other services include "clown therapy." Bldg C. 776-8477. **SF Children's Art Center** offers classes for children ages 2-12 in drawing, printmaking & sculpture. Small classes ensure individual attention. Prorated enrollment, drop-in classes & art birthday parties available. Bldg C. 771-0292. **Young Performers Theatre** features ongoing dramatic classes & productions for children ages 3 & above. Bldg C. 346-5550. **Jing Mo Athletic Association** Gung-fu for exercise & self-defense. Kids & adults. $35-25/mo. Bldg C. Call 753-1269 for further info.

Spirit Theatre Dance Studio Children's Cultural Arts Afterschool Program offers West African dance class for kids. Info: (510) 849-3232.

Kids 'N' Clay Pottery Studio offers pottery classes in the East Bay. Affordable, ongoing weekly classes for kids ages 7 & up. $14.50 per class, class size kept low to ensure personal attention. For schedules & other info call (510) 486-1797. Located behind the North Berkeley BART Station. Adult classes also offered.

For Kids at La Pena: 3105 Shattuck Ave nr Woolsey St, Berkeley; (510) 849-2568. Sat morning programs, 10:30 am, kids $2, adults $3. **Schedule—**12/18: **Travelling Storyteller Joel Ben Izzy** shares his folktales, travel stories & Jewish folklore, for all ages. **No program on Christmas Day**, 12/25.

For Kids at Cody's Books: 2454 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Call (510) 845-7852 for program details.

Lesbian Mothers Support Group spons by Operation Concern meets Tues 10:30 am-noon. Info: Saralie Pennington, LCSW, 626-7000, ext 173.

CMC Holiday Party for Children: 12/18, 11:30 am, free! Community Music Center's annual event features the Ina Chalis Opera Ensemble performing the short Christmas opera, *Amahl & the Night Visitors*, by Menotti, followed by snacks and a visit from Santa Claus. 544 Capp St, SF. Info: 647-6015.

The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie: Dance Brigade's annual dance/theater extravaganza, a "nutty, rambuctious, irreverent & politically charged" production. 12/17-18 at 8 pm, 12/19 at 2 & 8 pm. Discounts for kids and seniors, see Onstage listing for details. Calvin Simmons Theater, Oakland. Info: (510) 652-0752.

Stuart Little, a musical version of E.B. White's classic children's tale about a mouse and his adventures in New York City. Amusing play appeals to children of all ages, and their parents as well. 12/18; 1/8 & 2/19; 10:30 am & 1 pm. Play also provides a fun way to celebrate a child's birthday, as the celebrant is given a special tribute at the beginning of each performance. Tix $6. Proceeds benefit the Children's Theatre Association's free performances for kids throughout the year. Trustee Auditorium, de Young Museum, Golden Gate Park, SF. Info/res: 387-7089.

Really Rosie by Maurice Sendak, with music by Carole King. Have fun with Rosie and her neighborhood friends, Kathy, Alligator & Chicken Soup, as they audition to be a part of Rosie's musical about her life. New Conservatory Theatre Center production. Play runs Fri 12/17 at 8 pm, Sat & Sun 12/18-19 at 11 am & 1 pm; 12/20-23 at 2 pm. Tix $10. New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF. Info/res: 861-8972.

Hand to Hand: A Holiday Food & Gift Festival/Luncheon—12/19, 11 am-5 pm. Fundraiser for Project Open Hand. Geared for the whole family, this event includes entertainment for kids—ice sculpture carving displays, kids' activities led by the Exploratorium & Make-A-Circus and Snowball Express rides. SF Marriott Grand Ballroom, 55 4th St at Market, SF. See Main Calendar for details.

SF Bay Revels: 8th annual holiday extravaganza featuring Appalachian, gospel & Shaker holiday traditions. A joyous 19th-century American Winter Solstice celebration including singing, ritual dances, drama & songs; with audience participation. 12/16-19 at Scottish Rite Theater, Oakland. See Main Calendar listing for details.

PLEASE NOTE: *Don't forget to check the Parenting sections of the Open Exchange Classifieds and the Resource Guide for more parenting resources.*

ments, with soloists Frederick Matthews (baritone) and John Butt (organ). Reception follows service. 261 Fell St, btwn Franklin & Gough, SF. Info: 431-0454.

An Eve of Kung Pao Kosher Comedy: 1st annual Jewish Christmas Eve Comedy Show in Chinatown! (Come enjoy a night of laughs with house specials Suzy Berger, Lisa Geduldig, Scott Silverman & Stu Silverstein at Four Seas Restaurant, 731 Grant Ave, btwn Clay & Sacramento, SF. Tix $10 adv, $12 at door. Eight-course Chinese dinner served at 6:30 pm. $18 additional for dinner (includes tax & tip). Dinner tix must be purchased in advance (available at Modern Times Bookstore, SF and at Cody's Books, Berkeley). Info: 431-7363.

Club nZinga Global Dance Party—see 12/17.

At the Elbo Room: Special Christmas Eve Dance Party begins at 8 pm. $2 admission after 10. Valencia near 17th St, SF. Info: 552-7788.

"Kiki & Herb Roasting on an Open Fire," at Eichelberger's, see 12/17.

DEC 25 / S A T

Christmas Morning Run with Eastbay Frontrunners. Oakland Hills run, followed by bagels & coffee. Interested? RSVP to Roz (510) 939-3579 or Greg (510) 482-4391.

Christmas Day Fun Run with SF Frontrunners: "Jingle Bell Run" at Stow Lake, Golden Gate Park, SF. 9 am. 1-5 mile run/walk, wear your bells! (red, green & white colors encouraged, antlers & Santa hats optional). Hot cider & holiday cookies served. Free, everyone welcome!

Christmas Day Service & Potluck Dinner at MCC (Metropolitan Community Church)-SF, a lesbian/gay/bi/transgender fellowship. Worship service with special festive music & communion, followed by potluck dinner at noon. Everyone welcome! 150 Eureka St (btwn 18th & 19th), SF. Info: 863-4434.

Queer in your Ear: An hour of music by local women musicians—Melanie De More, Gwen Avery, *Malibu Barbie, Love Scar* and many others—on KPFA, 94.1 FM.

At Old Wives' Tales Bookstore: Open House, noon-7 pm, light refreshments served. At 7:30 pm: Max Dashu presents her slideshow, "Suppressed Histories: The Afro-Asian Goddess," (Canaan/Palestine/Israel/Lebanon/Syria/Arabia/Iraq). $3-10 SL donation, no one turned away for lack of funds. 1009 Valencia St, SF. Info: 821-4676.

Christmas in the City Hike with Gay/Lesbian Sierrans. Easy-paced Christmas afternoon hike. Starts at the Embarcadero, goes thru Telegraph Hill and to Chinatown. Optional dinner at the Great Eastern Restaurant. Meet 2 pm sharp at SF's Ferry Building. Bring water & layered clothing. Info: 281-5666 (voicemail).

The Elbo Room is open on Christmas! 8 pm-2 am. Valencia near 17th St, SF. Info: 552-7788.

Margaret Cho & Mark Davis at Josie's Cabaret, 8 pm, $12, see 12/21.

Gay Comedy Night at Josie's Cabaret with Karen Williams, Scott Capurro & Derrick Richardson. 10 pm, $10. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

DEC 26 / S U N

Women's Aquabound Retreat in Monterey: Come leave holiday stress behind, enjoy a guided sea kayaking tour, hot tub, writers' group, shared feasts. Today & tmw. Info/res: Lori (408) 335-7199.

Support Group for Women who have been battered (emotionally, physically or sexually) by women lovers, spons by the SF Network for Battered Lesbians & Bisexual Women, see 12/19.

3rd Annual Robert Chesley Memorial SEXART Salon: Hosted by Mark I Chester & Michael Rosen. 3-7 pm. Come read/share creative sexual materials. Open to unusual events. Art show of work from Mark's & Michael's personal art collections (including Joel-Peter Witkin, Duane Michaels & Eiko Hosoe). 1229 Folsom St, SF. Info/res: 621-6294.

Margaret Cho & Mark Davis at Josie's Cabaret—final show! See 12/21.

"Ho! Ho! Ho!" Asian AIDS Project's Rubber Club presents a Christmas program at the N'Touch Bar, 1548 Polk St, SF. Yuletide celebration emceed by Tita Aida and super DJ Peter Camacho. This holiday show also features Asian AIDS Project's theater production, "Ms Drag-On". Info: Nikki or Dominic 227-0946.

DEC 27 / MON

Bi-Friendly SF meets at 7 pm for food, drink & conversation at the Village Deli, 495 Castro St, SF. Friendly bisexuals (and bi-friendly others) are welcome! Info: Pierre 648-6332.

Small Press Traffic Poetry & Prose Series continues with Susan Clark, editor of *Raddle Moon* magazine. 7:30 pm, $4.

Gay Comedy Open Mike at Josie's Cabaret with emcee Hank Donat. 8 pm, $5. Aspiring gay & lesbian comics sign up by phone. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

DEC 28 / T U E

Conversations on Living—video by Louise Hay. Screens at Amron Metaphysical Center, 2254 Van Ness Ave, SF. 7 pm, free. Info: 775-0227.

Bi-Friendly Eastbay meets at 7 pm at Au Coquelet, 2000 University at Milvia, Berkeley. Info: Betsy (510) 845-7441.

Marga Gomez in "Marga Gomez's Greatest Flops" at Josie's Cabaret: Marga gives an unflinching look at her last ten years in comedy and the poor choices, tasteless jokes, bad singing, tacky costumes & stupid ideas that assured her a slow & painful rise to the top (almost). Show plays tonight & tmw at 8 pm. Tix $10. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

Rhythm & Roots Night at El Rio, see 12/21.

Small Press Traffic Anti-Mike Open Reading Series: 8 pm, $.99 donation. This month's theme: "As We Approach 2000".

Lavender Lounge show features Artfull Circle's "Christmas with the Crawfords" play. 10 pm, SF Cable Channel 47.

In The Life: TV's only monthly program series devoted to gay & lesbian life, airs with a new magazine-style format tonight at 11 pm on KQED Channel 9. Program highlights include a revealing interview with rock singer Melissa Etheridge, a look back at some of the lesbian & gay pioneers in pop music and a profile of German film director Rosa von Praunheim. Info: 864-2000.

"In the Life"—PBS' queer TV—features Melissa Etheridge on Dec. 28. Check listing for info.

Photo by Dennis Keely.

DEC 29 / W E D

Alameda Run with Eastbay Frontrunners: Take High Street exit off Hwy 880. Follow High St west toward Alameda to Otis St. Turn right & follow across bridge. Turn right on Island Drive & immediately right onto Veterans Court. Meet 6:30 pm at end of court. Info: Roz (510) 939-3579 or Greg (510) 482-4391.

4 Big Girls present "Bigger Than A Breadbox," a night of hilarious in-your-face performance by this African-American Lesbian Comedy Quartet from Seattle. Group uses humor, movement & music to address issues of sexuality, self-hate, self-love, body image, race & gender. 12/29-31. Tonight's 7 pm (tix $10, 15 & 25) performance is a Kwanzaa celebration/fundraiser for LGADDA (Lesbians & Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action) and features guest pop/funk vocalist Tony George. 12/30 & 31 performances are at 7:30 & 9:30 pm, tix $12 & 15. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St (one block from 16th St BART Station), SF. Info/res: 861-5079.

Marga Gomez in "Marga Gomez's Greatest Flops" at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/28. Final show!

Lu Read presents "Merkinstock," a nightclub offshoot of NY's "Wigstock". Mistress of Ceremonies Patsy Cline/Chesty Baker performs with her bands, *The Memphis G-Spots* and *The Opter Flame Quartet*. Show also feautures Joan Jett Blakk, Pearl E Gates, Connie Champagne, Bambi, Justin Bond, Elvis Herselvis, Enrique, Miss Kitty, Ruby Begonia-Bidet, Diet Popstitute & David Hawkins, Rena McDonald, Jerome, *Trauma Flintstone*, Jade, Veronica Klaus and many others. 9 pm, $15. Proceeds benefit Fresh Start Farms and the Immune Enhancement Project. Slim's, 333 11th St, SF. Info: 621-3330.

Funk & Jazz at El Rio, see 12/22.

Earl Thomas at Blues—final show! See 12/16.

DEC 30 / T H U

"Singing for Your Life," Quest, Grace Cathedral Center for Spiritual Wholeness, presents their 4th annual program, a 24-hour musical event to welcome the new year. Join Bobby McFerrin's group *Voicestra* and hundreds of other Bay Area singers who will be singing continuously in Grace Cathedral from 6 pm tonight to 6 pm tmw. During this time the 37-foot Labyrinth will be open to the public for walking. All are welcome anytime (day or night) to participate in this celebration of meditation & music. Free. 1051 Taylor St, SF. Info: 776-6611.

Rainbow's End support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual & questioning youth meets tonight, see 12/16.

Molly Ivins, political columnist & author (*Nothing But Good Times Ahead, Molly Ivins Can't Say That, Can She?*) speaks as part of City Arts & Lectures' "Talking at the Herbst" lecture series. 8 pm, $14. Info/res: 392-4400.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets 7:30-9 pm at MidPeninsula YWCA, 4161 Alma, Palo Alto. Tonight's theme: Let's Get Trivial! Night of your favorite board games—all women are welcome! Info: Marilyn (415) 583-1649 or Lynn (408) 737-9229.

Seattle's 4 Big Girls in "Bigger Than A Breadbox" at Theatre Rhino, see 12/29.

New Horizons social/support group for lesbian, gay & bisexual adults ages 21-29 meets tonight, see 12/16.

Funnyfolks Marga Gomez & Mark Davis team up to bring in the new year with lots of laughs at Josie's Cabaret, tonight thru 1/2 at 8 pm, with added 10 pm shows on New Year's Eve & 1/1. Tix $10 Thurs & Sun, $15 New Year's Eve, $12 Sat. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

4th Annual Year to Dismember: 1993 A Queer Year in Review—Stars Tom Ammiano & Karen Ripley in their annual roast of the past year. Night of caustic & ribald queer wit, too good to miss! Tonight at 8 pm, tmw at 8 & 10 pm at New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Ave near Market, SF. Tix $12 for the 8 pm performances, $15 for 10 pm performance (includes complimentary glass of champagne or Calistoga and party favors). Info/res: 861-8972.

on stage

Jeffrey, award-winning comedy by Paul Rudnick. Provocative comedy about a young NY actor/waiter who vows to give up sex, then meets a bartender who may be the man of his dreams. Play runs Tues-Thurs at 8 pm, Fri at 8:30 pm, Sat at 5 & 8:30 pm, Sun at 3 & 7 pm, thru 1/2. Tix $22-30. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St, SF, floor 2M. Info/res: 433-9500 or BASS.

Endgame/Act Without Words I, two Samuel Beckett one-acts. Berkeley Rep Theatre production. Runs Tues-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 & 7 pm, Thurs matinees at 2 pm thru 12/19. Tix $20-32.50. Info/res: (510) 845-4700. Berkeley Rep Theatre, 2025 Addison at Shattuck, downtown Berkeley.

Beach Blanket Babylon, SF's longest-running musical revue, highlights its customary zaniness with tap-dancing Christmas trees, take-offs on favorite carols & a colossal yuletide hat. At Club Fugazi, 678 Green St, SF. Tix $17-40. Info/res: 421-6788.

Jumping the Broom, new romantic comedy revue about the conflicts, contradictions & creativity of lesbian & gay weddings. Theatre Rhino production combines the work of more than a dozen Bay Area playwrights, each asked to write scenes reflecting issues specific to same-sex marriages. Play runs Fri-Sat at 8 pm, thru 12/18. Tix $12-18. Theatre Rhino mainstage, 2926 16th St at Mission, SF. Info/res: 861-5079.

Holiday Memories, Russell Vandenbroucke's adaptation of two Truman Capote stories. Runs thru 12/19 at Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave, Berkeley. Aurora Theatre Co production. Info/res: (510) 843-4822.

Box Conspiracy, an interactive show by George Coates Performance Works. Comic musical about today's explosive new technologies and the coming national information network. The work takes the audience, wearing 3-D glasses, on a hyper-real experience of the interactive future when the soon-to-be ubiquitous Digital Converter Box makes every home TV set a two-way transporter on the information highway. Play runs Fri & Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 7 pm; thru 12/31. Tix $17, $24 & $34 on Fri & Sat; $14, $21 & $31 on Sun. George Coates Performance Works, 110 McAllister St, SF. Info/res: 863-4130.

Santos & Santos by Octavio Solis. Play tells the story of three brothers & their struggle with family, morality, identity and each brother's quest for a rapidly darkening American Dream. Thick Description production, in association with Eureka Theatre. Thru 12/19 at Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St, SF. Tix $12.50-$16.50. Info/res: 621-7797 or BASS.

Scum: The Valerie Solanas Story by Kathi Georges. 1968: Valerie Solanas (*SCUM Manifesto*) shoots Andy Warhol. A true story of a seminal voice of the feminist movement. Marilyn Monroe Memorial Theater Co production. Play runs Thurs-Sat at 9 pm thru 1/23. Tix $10-$12. Marilyn Monroe Memorial Theater, 96 Lafayette St (btwn 11th & 12th, off Howard), SF. Info/res: 552-3034.

Scapino! Madcap, vaudeville version of Moliere's **"Scapin,"** about a rougish servant who brings two pairs of lovers together in defiance of their fathers. Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Multi Ethnic Theater production. Runs thru 12/19 at 8 pm, with matinee on 12/19.

The Phantom of the Opera, award-winning musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Show runs Tues-Sat at 8 pm, Wed & Sat matinees at 2 pm, Sun matinee at 3 pm. Tix: $27.50-$65. No performances 12/24 & 1/2. Added performances 12/20 & 27 at 8 pm. Special New Year's Eve tix price—$50-$80. Tix at BASS. Curran Theatre, 445 Geary St, SF.

Bette Midler plays the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium in San Francisco, 12/29-31. Proceeds benefit AIDS organizations. Don't miss! Call BASS for tix info.

Bewitched, the Play by John Lamas, based on the popular '60s television show. New Conservatory Theatre production. Proceeds benefit the New Conservatory HIV Touring Company. Runs Thurs-Sat thru 1/1, at 8 pm. New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF. Lower level. Info/res: 861-8972.

Bessie's Blues by Thomas Jones II. Sizzling show based on "the Empress of the Blues" Bessie Smith—a musical travelogue mixed with jazz, hip hop & rap, about the lives of the entertainers who gave birth to the blues. Runs thru 12/19 at Oakland Ensemble Theatre, Alice Arts Center, 1428 Alice St, downtown Oakl. Info/res: (510) 238-7222.

Noctomania by No Budget Theater Co. Nine original monologues about the fear of being alone. Sat & Sun, thru 12/19 at 8 pm at Above Brainwash, 1126 Folsom St at 7th, SF. Tix $7. Info/res: 255-4866.

Steal Away by Ramona King. Comedy set during the Great Depression. Five upstanding church ladies raise funds to send young Black women to college. When the bank rejects their request for a loan by saying "colored children don't need education," they respond by making plans to rob the bank. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre production. Runs Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun matinee at 2 pm. Tix $12 Thurs, $14 Fri and Sun matinees; $16 Sat eves. 620 Sutter St, SF. Info/res: 474-8800.

The Mathematics of Change: Josh Kornbluth presents his one-man show, a hilarious autobiographical monologue about an ambitious student's dreams of becoming the world's greatest mathematician. Wed-Sun, thru 1/9. Wed-Sat at 8:30 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix $12-$18. Info/res: 441-8822. Magic Theatre, Ft Mason Center, Bldg D, SF.

Box 27 by Michael Norman Mann. Play about how several professional soldiers are affected by the US military's policy on gays (Box 27 refers to a section on the form last used in 1988 for military personnel when re-enlisting, which asked "Are you a homosexual? Yes or No"). A gay officer extending his tour of duty in the Marines is struggling with whether to announce he is gay. His older lover, a Master Sergeant & friend of his hard-boiled conservative father, is opposed to "telling." New Conservatory Theatre production. Runs Wed-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 3 pm, 1/5-23. New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Ave nr Market, SF. Tix $20 Fri & Sun, $17.50 all other performances. Info/res: 861-8972.

The Adding Machine by Elmer Rice. While written in 1923, this play confronts contemporary social problems. An anonymous individual competes in a technologically advanced & hostile society. Jean Shelton Actors Theater. Play runs Fri & Sat at 8 pm, Sun matinee at 3 pm, thru 12/19. Tix $7. 533 Sutter St, SF. Info/res: 433-1226.

sheela-na-gig by Deirdre Herbert. Lascivious & humo.ous show features five women in an exploration of the Irish female psyche thru the portrayal of women from prominent Irish literature. Play runs Thurs-Sat, 1/6-29 at 8:30 pm. Tix $8-$12 on Thurs, $10-$12 on Fri & Sat. Info/res: 641-0235.

The Cat That Turned Into a Woman by Offenbach. Supernatural, provocative spoof, one of Offenbach's zaniest & most improbable works. Pocket Opera production. All performances are dinner shows. Schedule: 12/17 at Ratto's in Oakland, dinner at

arts and crafts, herbal teas, organic coffee, 'zines

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6:30 pm, show at 7:30; 12/19 at Enrico's in SF, dinner at 5:30 pm, show at 7:30; 12/20 at the Blue Chalk Cafe in Palo Alto, dinner at 6 pm, show at 8. Tix $40 (includes dinner). Info/res: Ratto's (510) 832-6503; Enrico's (415) 982-6223; Blue Chalk Cafe (415) 326-1020.

The Blessing of Time & Tide (Se Weol I Jota), an award-winning work by Rio Ishada, one of Japan's leading playwrights. Play fuses both Japanese & Korean traditions as it tells the tale of a woman who tries desperately to hold on to the memory of her past lover. Theatre of Yugen production. Runs 12/27-30 at 8 pm, gala opening on 8/27, matinee at 3 pm on 12/29. Tix $12 gen'l, $20 opening night. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa St at Alabama, SF. Info/res: 621-7978.

Noh Christmas Carol, a world premiere adaptation of Charles Dickens's classic holiday tale, adapted by Cianna Stewart. Play, set in northern Japan in the 1890s, is a colorful & wildly visual blending of traditional Japanese dance/theater forms including Noh, Kyogen, Butoh & puppetry to vividly tell the story of Ebenezer Scrooge and his spiritual odyssey. Theatre of Yugen production. Runs thru 12/23 at Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa St, SF. Wed-Fri at 8 pm, Sat at 2 & 8 pm. Tix $8-$12. Info/res: 621-7978.

Weber Family Christmas: A charmingly blasphemous yuletide tale, the sixth & last SF edition of Fratelli Bolognia's zany comedy about the Webers and their familiar yet skewed Christmas rituals. Climate Theatre production. Runs Tues-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 & 8 pm, thru 12/26 (no evening performance on 12/24 or 12/25). Info/res: City Box Office 392-4400. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg B, Ft Mason Center, SF.

A Karen Carpenter Christmas by Tom Ross & Morey Goldstein. Karen Carpenter has been offered the opportunity to star in her very own Christmas TV special, but she has to come up with a concept, too, and she's lost her Christmas spirit. Nevertheless she perseveres. Yuletide comedy extravaganza features classics from the Carpenter canon, Christmas songs & Broadway show-stoppers. A Marsh production. Runs 12/16-19, 21-24, 26-30 at 8:30 pm, with added 10:30 pm performances on 12/18 & 24. Tix $12. Info/res: 282-6024. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St, SF.

Mikari tries desperately to hold on to the memory of her past lover as Theatre of Yugen presents "The Blessing of Time and Tide," the first-ever Japanese-Korean theatre collaboration. OnStage has info.

Christmas with the Crawfords, an Art Full Circle Theatre Inc production. Join Christina, Christopher and their beloved Mommie Dearest Joan as they welcome their adoring fans into their Brentwood home for a night of Christmas radio fireside entertainment. Play features Ann Drogynous as Joan Crawford, Mark Sargent as Ethel Merman, Richard Sanchez as Hattie McDaniels, Kate Simonton as Judy Garland and Robert Stephens as Zsa Zsa. Runs Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 7 pm thru 1/2. Tix $10 Thurs & Sun, $15 Fri & Sat. Info/res: 626-5455.

Brigadoon by Alan Jay Lerner & Frederick Loewe. Haunting musical fantasy about a Scottish town that has gone to sleep, awakening for a single day once each 100 years. Peninsula Stage production. Runs Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2:30 pm, thru 12/19. Rox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City. Tix $15-$17 gen'l. Info/res: 329-2623.

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. Northside Theatre Company production. Runs Thrus-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 3 pm, thru 12/26. Tix $8 gen'l, $6 srs & youth under age 16. 848 East William St, San Jose. Info/res: (408) 288-7820.

Really Rosie, a musical comedy by Maurice Sendak with music by Carole King. The story of an effervescent little girl who wants to make a movie about her life. New Conservatory Theatre production. Runs thru 12/23. 11 am & 1 pm on Sat & Sun, 12/18 & 19; Mon-Thurs at 2 pm on 12/20-23. Tix $10. New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Ave nr Market, SF. Info/res: 861-8972.

The 1993 Lezzie Holiday Show, produced by Tribad Productions. Tribad's rendition of lesbian family holidays includes Scroog-ette in "The Lesbian Xmas Carol," "The Twigh-Dike Zone" sing-a-longs with traditional and lesbian holiday titles, sharing lesbian holiday fun from other traditions and countries, and professionally catered refreshments. Show runs 12/16-18 at 8 pm in Petaluma. For tix prices, res and other info call (707) 545-9806.

Panunuluyan: The Search for an Inn. Filipino traditional musical play depicting Joseph and Mary's search for an inn. Teatro ng Tanan (Theatre for Everyone) production. Runs Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 3 pm thru 12/19. Tix $8 stdnts, srs & disabled, $10 gen'l in adv, $12 gen'l at door. St Andrew's Church, 1571 Southgate Ave, Daly City. Info/res: 252-7566.

Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie: The Dance Brigade presents its 7th annual "nutty, rambunctious, irreverent, politically charged & delightfully perverse" multicultural production; a dance/theatre show featuring music composed by Mary Watkins, performed by the American Jazz Theater band, conducted by Nan Washburn. Production includes Native American & African American dancers, aerial performers and members of the Axis Dance Troupe (a dis/abled performance group), under the direction of Nina Fichter & Krissy Keefer, plus guest choreographers Terry Sendgraff & Kim Epifano. All performances sign-interpreted by Doralyn Folse. 12/17-18 at 8 pm, 12/19 at 2 & 8 pm. Calvin Simmons Theater, 10 10th St, nr Fallon, Oakl. Tix $14.50 in adv, $16 at door, general; $11 for kids under 12, srs & the disabled. Tix at BASS. Family package tix: $12 adult, $8 child (available only by mail from the Dance Brigade, PO Box 2962 Oakl 94609).

"Nutcracker," Oakland Ballet presents a new production of the holiday classic. Features the Oakland East Bay Symphony, conducted by Jean-Louis LeRoux. Choreography by Ronn Guidi. 12/17 at 8 pm, 12/18 at 2 & 8 pm, 12/19 at 2 & 7 pm, 12/21 & 22 at 8 pm, 12/23 at 2 pm, 12/24 at 11 am, 12/26 at 2 & 7 pm. Community matinee at 10:30 am on 12/16. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway Ave, Oakl. Tix $8-$45. Info/res: (510) 465-6400, (510) 762-2277 or (415) 776-1999.

galleries

de Young Museum Golden Gate Park, SF. "Jacob Lawrence: The Frederick Douglass & Harriet Tubman Series of 1938-40," features 63 works portraying the lives of these important civil rights activists; on exhibit thru 1/2. Prints by John Bock: monumental in scale, bold in color & often political in content; woodblock prints on exhibit thru 2/27. Hrs: Wed-Sun 10 am-5 pm. Fee: $8 gen'l, $4 kids age 12-17, $5 srs (65 & over), kids under 12 are free. Info: 750-3614.

SF Museum of Modern Art: "The Young Rebel in American Photography, 1950-1970," exhibit of work by Diane Arbus, Larry Clark, Bruce Davidson, Larry Fink, Robert Frank, Lee Friedlander, William Gale Gedney, Allen Ginsberg, Danny Lyon & Josephine Sterling, on exhibit thru 1/30. "The Great English Vortex," exhibit of approx 30 drawings by a selection of Vorticist artists (a short-lived but highly influential British art movement of the early 1900s). Exhibit runs thru 1/16. 401 Van Ness Ave, SF. Hrs: 10 am-5 pm, Tues, Wed & Fri; 10 am-9 pm Thurs; 11 am-5 pm Sat & Sun. Tix $4 gen'l, $2 srs & stdnts, kids under 13 are free. Info: 252-4000.

Oakland Museum: "Bay Area Sculptors II," at the Oakland Museum Sculpture Court at City Center (the museum's satellite gallery in downtown Oakl), features work by Philip Dow, Eddy Hood, Susan Marie Johnson, Seymour Locks, Zhee Singer, Charles Splady, Gale Wagner, Gerald Walburg & Suzanne Wilbroe; thru 2/12. Hrs: Wed-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun noon-7 pm. 1000 Oak St at 10th (one block from Lake Merritt BART, five blocks from highways 880 & 980). Admission free unless noted. Info: (510) 238-3401.

The Jewish Museum: "The Road to Maus," exhibit of work by Art Spiegelman, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning book on the Holocaust. Exhibit runs thru 12/30 at the Jewish Museum and includes over 100 of Spiegelman's drawings & memorabilia, including the oral history of his father. 121 Steuart St, btwn Mission & Howard, SF. Lecture tix $12.50-$25, call BASS for info.

MACE Space for Art: Paintings by Robin Clark, on exhibit thru 12/18. 1319 Pine St at Hyde, SF. Hrs: Noon-7 pm Tues-Fri, noon-5 pm Sat, and by appt. Info: 931-9670.

The Mexican Museum: Annual Holiday Mercadeo at La Tienda, the Mexican Museum store, thru 12/24. Features wide selection of Mexican & Latin American crafts—Peruvian jewelry, Guatemalan textiles, Mexican wooden toys, bilingual books and more. "Ceremony of Spirit: Nature & Memory in Contemporary Latino Art," exhibit of work from 16 contemporary artists from regions as diverse as Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Panama, Puerto Rico & the Southwestern United States. An exploration of pan-Latino issues of genocide, geographic displacement & environmental degradation thru mixed-media artworks & installations. Thru 2/20. Fort Mason Center, Bldg D, Laguna & Marina Blvds, SF. Hrs: Wed-Sun, noon-5 pm. $3 gen'l, $2 stdnts & srs, kids under 10 are free, first Wed of each month admission is free, noon-8 pm. Info: 441-0404.

Ansel Adams Center: 250 Fourth St, SF. "Wendy Ewald: Retratos y Suenos/Portraits & Dreams: Photographs by Mayan & Mexican Children," thru 1/5. Hrs: Tues-Sun, 11 am-5 pm; 1st Thurs of every month, 11 am-8 pm. $4 gen'l, $3 stdnts, $2 srs/youth 12-17, kids under 12 are free. Info: 495-7000.

ATA Gallery: 992 Valencia St, SF. Info: 824-3890.

Asian Art Museum: "Thai Ceramics: The James & Elaine Connell Collection," 170 objects of Thai ceramics from 2000 BC thru the 17th century, drawn from one of the most comprehensive public collections in the United States. On exhibit thru 3/13. Golden Gate Park, SF. Hrs: Wed-Sun, 10 am-5 pm. Admission: $5 gen'l, $3 srs 65 & over, $2 youth ages 12-17, free for kids under 12. Exhibit hotline: 668-7855. General museum info: 668-8921. TDD: 752-2635.

Bomani Gallery: 251 Post St, SF. Info: 296-8677.

Christensen Heller Gallery: "Photographs of Ladakh," by Sarah Stearns; "Handpainted Exotic Eggs," by Susan Tibbons; "Custom Wood Furniture," by Patrick Graney; on exhibit thru 12/31. 5831 College Ave, Oakl. Hrs: Tues-Sat 11 am-6 pm. Info: (510) 655-5952.

Bayfront Gallery: Ft Mason Center, Building A, SF. Info: 441-5706.

Belcher Studios Gallery: Group Christmas Exhibit by Belcher Studios. thru 12/24. Hrs: Noon-5 pm Thurs-Sat, Tues & Wed by appt. 69 Belcher St, SF. Info: 863-8745 or 626-8917.

California Crafts Museum: "Exploring the Use of Icons in Contemporary Crafts," holiday exhibit runs thru 1/2. "Icons in Contemporary Art: The Irreducible Logic of Thing Observed," exhibit of paintings & sculptures by artists whose works relay icons as symbols in a contemporary context; thru 1/2. "Nature in Process: Patricia Johansen, Lia Do Rio, Mariyo Yagi," exhibit of installations 1/8-2/20. "Transparency," exhibit focusing on fine artists who use glass in their sculpture; 2/26-4/10. Hrs: daily, 11 am-6 pm. Ghirardelli Square, 900 North Point, Box 25, SF. Info: 771-1919.

Capp Street Project: 270 14th St at Mission, SF. Info: 626-7747.

Circle Gallery: "Erte Art to Wear," on exhibit thru 1/2. 140 Maiden Lane, SF. Hrs: Mon-Sat, 10 am-6 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. Info: 989-2100.

The Clay Studio: Holiday Sale, thru 12/22. Pottery & hand-built ceramics ranging in price from $2-$100 by artists working in the Clay Studio. Hrs: Mon-Sat, 10 am-5 pm, and by appt. 52 Julian Ave, SF. Info: 431-6296.

Eye Gallery: 1151 Mission St btwn 7th & 8th, SF. Hrs: Noon-5 pm, Tues-Sat. Info: 431-6911.

Falkirk Cultural Gallery: 1408 Mission Ave at "E" St, downtown San Rafael. Info: 485-3327.

Gallery on the Rim: 333 Third St, Ste 200, SF. Hrs: Tues-Sun 11 am-7 pm. Info: 543-7007.

Kiki Gallery: "Sick Joke: Bitterness, Sarcasm & Irony in the Second AIDS Decade," a powerful exhibit that mirrors the intense emotional overload plaguing those in the eye of the storm. Exhibit of original works of Nayland Blake, Laura Brun, Erin Courtney, Jonathan Hammer, Cary Liebowitz/Candyass, John Lindell, Keith Mayerson, Marlene McCarty, Brett Reichman & Wayne Smith. Hrs: Thurs-Sat, noon-7 pm, or by appt. 483 14th St at Guerrero, SF. Info: 863-KIKI.

The Lab Gallery: "A Caryatid," an installation by Donna Leigh Schumacher questioning the assumptions portrayed by the abstracted form of the female body. Runs thru 12/18. 1807 Divisadero St, SF. Hrs: Noon-5 pm Wed-Sat. Info: 346-4063.

The Luggage Store Gallery: "2nd Annual Juried Luggage Show," a mixed media group show of approximately 20 visual artists concerning "psychic, spiritual, physical and/or emotional baggage." 12/17-1/26, opening reception 12/17, 5:30-8:30 pm. 509 Cultural Center Annex, 1007 Market St nr 6th, SF. Hrs: Thurs-Sat 1-5 pm, and by appt. Info: 255-5971.

Pro Arts Gallery: "Relocation Stories," multiside, multimedia project by James Luna describes the experience of a group of Native Americans who participated in the Bureau of Indian Affairs' relocation program of the 1950s & 1960s; thru 12/18. 1993 Pro-Arts Holiday Sale presents unique, functional & utilitarian art, thru 12/24. Hrs: Wed-Thurs noon-6 pm, Fri-Sun 10 am-5 pm. 461 9th St, Oakl. Info: (510) 763-4361.

Richmond Art Center: "Facing AIDS," collaborative exhibit on view in the Community Gallery. Works by Kerie Campbel, Suzin Wisland, Patty Haig, John Nielson, Jesus Rangel, Steven DePriest, Kek Tee Lim, Bob Corti, Tom Plagenman, Tom Prybil and Bill Haines; thru 1/23. Civic Center Plaza, 25th & Barrett, Richmond. Info: (510) 620-6772.

SF Camerawork: 70 12th St, SF. Hrs: Tues-Sat, noon-5 pm. Info: 621-1001.

SF Craft & Folk Art Museum: "Unknown Africa: Selections from the Collection of Dan Crowley," exhibit of rare & unusual African art, thru 1/2. Hrs: 11 am-5 pm, Tues-Sun; 10 am-5 pm, Sat. Ft Mason Ctr, Bldg A, SF. Info: 775-0990.

SF Art Institute: 800 Chestnut St, SF. Hrs: Tues-Sat, 10 am-5 pm; Thurs till 8 pm. Info: 882-9319.

Soft Touch Gallery: Hrs: Tues-Wed, Fri-Sun, 11 am-6 pm. 1580 Haight St, SF. Info: 863-3279.

Stamp Art Gallery: "Mittendorf: Handcarved Art Stamps," "Pico Sanchez: Hand Carved Prints," and "Photographs as Rubber Stamps: Preserving MailArt History on Rubber Stamps," work by Picasso Gaglione, Monty Canstin, Buster Cleveland & Robert Rocola; exhibits run thru 12/23. 466 8th St, SF. Info: 252-5975.

University Art Museum: "Visions of the Dharma: Images of Japanese Buddhism," thru 1/2. "Dennis Oppenheim: Land & Body Projects, 1967-1971," thru 1/2. "Richard Tuttle: Space/Sculpture," thru 1/2. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Info: (510) 642-0808.

Pacific Film Archive: "Banned in the USA: America & Film Censorship," a 27-film touring series about censorship & cinema; thru 12/18. "The Intimate Collaboration: Teaberry Press," selection of 52 contemporary works from SF's Teaberry Press. UC-Berkeley, 2625 Durant Ave, Berkeley. Info: (510) 642-1412.

Vision Gallery: "Dancers," an exhibit of platinum/palladium & gelatin silver photographs by East Coast artist Philip Trager; "Anima," series of photos by James Balog exploring the relationship between humans & chimpanzees; exhibits run thru 1/29. Hrs: Mon-Fri, 9 am-6 pm. 1155 Mission St, SF. Info: 621-2107.

WORLD (World Institute on Disability) Gallery: Exhibit of artwork by Frank Moore. Thru 2/24. 510 16th St, btwn Telegraph & San Pablo, Oakl. Ste 100. Info: (510) 763\4100 voice or TDD.

"Portraits of a March: D.C. '93," photos by Bob Corti. Black & white and color portraits of people who participated in the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay & Bi Rights. Thru December at Josie's Cabaret. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.

Photos by Jane Krensky at Quicksilver Mine Co in Guerneville. 14028 Armstrong Woods Rd, Guerneville. Info: (707) 869-9357. Thru 1/2.

"Ship of Dreams," exhibit of drawings by sculpture by Lewis Meyers, Jr & David Tomb at Turn of the Century Fine Arts, 2520 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley. Thru 1/15. Hrs: Tues-Fri 8 am-5 pm, Sat noon-5 pm. Info: (510) 849-0950.

Philip Trager's "Dancers," currently on display at Vision Gallery.

"The Classical Players," exhibit of paintings of jazz artists by Jihmye Collins. Thru 1/1 at Sunrise Fine Arts Gallery, 23 Grant St, SF. 2nd floor. Hrs: Tues-Fri, 11 am-6 pm, Sat 11 am-4 pm. Info: 398-7620.

"Paris, Visions of the Future," photos by Italian photographers Maria Grazia Della Casa & Laila Pozzo. Thru 12/18. Mon-Fri 10 am-12:30, 2:30-6 pm. French Class, 500 Sutter St, SF. Ste 503. Opening reception 12/3, 4-7 pm. Info: 362-3666.

"Artists' Images of AIDS & Images by Artists Living with AIDS," multimedia art exhibit by over 50 artists, on exhibit at College of Marin Fine Arts Gallery in Kentfield. Thru 12/17. Info: 485-9494.

Central City Hospitality House Holiday Art Celebration Arts & Crafts Sale: Crocker Galleria, 50 Post St, SF. Exhibit & sale runs thru 12/24 at two locations: Hospitality House Store/Crocker Galleria, 50 Post St, SF (1st floor) and Hospitality House Art Studio, 146 Leavenworth St, SF. Info: 749-2180.

"The 1970s," photo exhibit by Arthus Tress. Exhibit runs thru 1/5 at Every 6 Weeks, 323 Noe St at Market, SF.

"O Come All Ye Faithful," phallic altars by Dan Willis on exhibit thru 1/6 at Eros Center for Safe Sex, SF.

"The Dick Show," visual art exhibit featuring photography, drawing & sculpture by James Groleau, Keith Hennessey, Michael Rosen, Mark I Chester, Raelyn Gallina, Stevie Postman, Honey Lee Cottrell, Jim Schatz, Josh Davidson, Jack Davis and other visual artists. Thru 1/2 at 848 Community Space, 848 Divisadero St, SF. Info: 863-2609.

"The Gertrude Stein Memorial Water Closet," installation by Eva Festa at 848 Community Art Space. Walls, toilet, toilet paper, plunger and various objects covered with Stein's text (a la Tender Buttons). Recorded text plays, with a suit of Stein text to wear. Exhibit runs thru 12/30. 848 Divisadero at McAllister, SF. Info: 550-9764.

"Pussy-S," collection of recent works by provocative local pop-graffiti artist Julian Martin. Dec-Jan at Bagdad Cafe, Market & 16th, SF. Info: (510) 284-0662.

Oakland Glass Artists Exhibit at Nexus Gallery, thru 12/23. Work by Bruce Pizzichillo and Dari Gordon. 11 am-5 pm, daily. 2701 8th St, Berkeley. Info: (510) 832-8380.

"How Do You Like Me Now?" photo collage by Robert Bass at Higher Grounds, 3160 16th St at Guerrero, SF. Thru 12/18. Info: 252-5629.

"It's All True," an exhibit of photos by Timothy Alan Taylor. 12/17-2/5, opening reception on 2/17 at 6:30 pm. Opening benefits Face to Face, the Sonoma County AIDS service organization. Cover charge with buffet & live music. Hrs: Thurs-Sat, 8 pm-2 am. Ziggurat at the Russian River, f16135 Main St, Guerneville. Info: (707) 869-1400.

RAM Studios Winter Exhibit features work by photographer Franco Tarsitano. Thru 3/1. 4077 A 18th St, SF. Info: 558-9564.

resource guide

► AIDS RESOURCES

ACT UP/SF meets Thurs, 7:30 pm, at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. Direct action & civil disobedience to end the AIDS epidemic & the injustices around it. Call 621-0291 for info. WA.

ACT-UP/Golden Gate meets Tues at 7 pm at 590 Castro St, Ste B (2nd level, call ahead if you need special assistance), SF. Info: 241-8800 or FAX 252-9277.

PISD (People with Immune System Disorder), a caucus of ACT UP, for all people with immune disorders. Call 563-0724 for info.

ACT-UP Eastbay meets Wed 7:30 pm. First Unitarian Church of Oakl, 14th & Castro, Oakl (3 blocks west of City Ctr BART Station). Info: (510) 836-4401.

AIDS/HIV Nightline: Provides night-time emotional support for people concerned about AIDS or HIV infection. Run by SF Suicide Prevention, the Nightline is staffed by trained volunteers, 5 pm-5 am every night. Call 668-2437 or 1-(800) 273-2437.

AIDS Trials at NIAD/NIH: the National Institutes of Health recruits volunteers for inpatient & outpatient studies of new drugs & vaccines. For info call 1-800-243-7644. If you're accepted & enroll in a study, all travel expenses, & medical care provided at NIH, is free.

AIDS Emergency Fund: A volunteer-run, community-funded agency that provides emergency financial aid to low-income persons with AIDS/disabling HIV disease in the 9 Bay Area counties. Info: 558-6999. 1540 Market St, #320, SF 94102.

BAY (Bay Area Youth) Positives: Offers several support group for adolescents & young adults dealing with HIV. Group helps minimize the stress felt among young people who are HIV+. Free. Spons by AIDS Health Project. For mtg locations, times & other info call Julie Graham 386-4615 or Scott Walker 206-3157.

The Brothers Network is an African-American organization providing free emotional support for HIV + gay & bisexual men. Support groups include a Tues eve drop-in, peer counseling and ongoing African-American specific groups. Info: 749-6714. FAX 749-6706.

Rafiki Services Project provides practical & emotional support volunteer training; and services specifically geared toward African-American people with AIDS & HIV-related illnesses. For info call 346-5860.

Marin AIDS Project Emotional & practical support for persons with AIDS/HIV & their loved ones. Outreach & education. Info: 457-2487.

ARC/AIDS Drop-In Group for men with AIDS-related conditions or symptomatic HIV disease. Support, info, stress management. Thurs 6-8 pm. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF. Free. No adv reg required. Info: 626-7000.

HIV+ Drop-in Group for men testing positive. Wkly mtgs, 6-8 pm, free. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF. Info: 626-7000.

HIV Dual Diagnosis Program spons by Operation Concern: Provides intake, assessment, psychiatric consultation & monitoring, counseling & psychotherapy, case management & referrals, for HIV positive lesbians & gay men whose diagnoses are complicated by psychiatric disorders and/or substance abuse. Info: 626-7000.

AIDS Health Project offers prevention programs; mental health, substance abuse & antibody counseling; AIDS health professional training program & a guide to AIDS Research. Info: 1855 Folsom St, Ste 506, SF. 476-6430.

Third World People with AIDS/ARC meet in Oakl. Info: AIDS Project of the Eastbay (510) 420-8181

Kaiser-San Francisco offers several HIV drop-in support groups: asymptomatic HIV, symptomatic HIV, AIDS, caregivers, women with HIV, multiple loss, HIV-negative men. For more info call Melissa Farley 202-2292.

Kaiser Oakland offers support & education groups on a variety of HIV issues. (HIV-positive gay men's group, HIV-positive women's group, public education forum, couples, family & friends HIV support group, potluck socials). All groups meet 6:30-8 pm. For days & other info call Marsha Blachman, LCSW (510) 596-6337. Childcare is available for some groups. For info on the monthly HIV forum call Joe Di Milia, HIV Health Educator, at 596-6848.

Kaiser Patients Advocacy Union (KPAU): consumer activist group assists HIV-positive Kaiser patients, family & friends who are having problems with medical care & services at Kaiser. Newsletter, mtgs, confidential hotline, & lobbying—call 621-3409.

SF AIDS Foundation Client Services Dept provides a variety of direct services for persons with AIDS & ARC: financial benefits counseling, info & referral, advocacy, women's & people of color services, emergency housing, food bank & more. For info call 864-5855.

Southeast Asian AIDS Prevention Project offers HIV/AIDS info & private counseling in Vietnamese, Cambodian & Lao. Free prevention supplies given discreetly. Info: 885-2743.

Oscar Romero AIDS Project provides educational & technical HIV outreach to the poor of El Salvador. Group also brings supplies of condoms, literature & other materials to El Salvador. Info: 241-0398. 250 Fell St #21, SF 94102.

Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network: counseling & in-home care for people with AIDS & ARC in Sonoma County. Also support groups. Info: Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network, POB 1599, Guerneville, CA 95446; or call (707) 887-1581.

Valley of the Moon AIDS Project offers free, bimonthly support groups for people living with AIDS/HIV, and their friends & family. 1st & 3rd Tues of each month, 7-8:30 pm at Sonoma Vintage House, 264 First Street East, Sonoma (rooms 111 & 113) Info: David (707) 938-3765 or Sheana (707) 935-6260.

The AIDS/ARC Blood Fund for people with AIDS is available by calling the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Demo Club's Blood Fund Coordinator, 863-6761.

Project Open Hand delivers hot meals & groceries to people with AIDS or disabling HIV disease in SF, Oakl & Berk. Food Bank at Church & Duboce, SF, provides groceries only. No one refused service because of inability to pay. A letter of diagnosis/referral is all that's necesssary to receive service. Info: (415) 558-0600 or (510) 548-8909.

The Family Link provides housing for friends & family of people with AIDS who are visiting from outside the Bay Area. Info: 346-0770.

ARIS Project: emotional, practical wkly support groups for people w/AIDS, ARC, HIV pos., & their loved ones. Also volunteer training. Call (408) 370-3272.

Contra Costa County AIDS Program: County government program. Offers community support groups & education. 597 Center Ave, Ste 200, Martinez, CA 94553. For info or to volunteer: (510) 313-6770.

AIDS Project of Contra Costa offers emotional & practical support to people with AIDS/ARC, their families & loved ones. Support groups, outreach, education & volunteer training opportunities. Info: (510) 356-AIDS. 2280 Diamond Blvd, Concord 94520.

San Mateo County AIDS Program provides HIV prevention services, testing & counseling, early intervention, primary care, social services, support groups, a drop-in center for people with HIV and clinical trials. Safer Sex Patrol volunteers do gay outreach. Multicultural. 3700 Edison St, San Mateo. Info: 573-2588, Mon-Fri, 8 am-5 pm. Volunteers are welcome!

AIDS Ministry of MCC-SF: provides support to persons with AIDS & other life-threatening & chronic illnesses, their family & friends. Support groups, monthly potlucks dinners, healing services, spiritually-based training for caretakers & more. Info: 863-4434. 150 Eureka St, SF.

PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support) provides direct services so people with AIDS/ARC can keep their pets. Also places pets in foster & permanent homes as needed. Info: 824-4040.

SHARE (Special Human & Animal Relationships) program of Marin Humane Society offers services to Marin County PWAs with pets. Info: 883-4621.

The Godfather Service Fund: provides care packages (toiletry, bathrobes, slippers & teddy bear) to people with AIDS/ARC/HIV in 12 SF hospitals. To volunteer or make contributions call 565-4433 or write 584 Castro St #225, SF 94114.

Health Center#1 offers an evening clinic for people who are HIV positive or have AIDS or AIDS-related conditions, and find it difficult to go the doctor during the daytime. Clinic serves the Mission, Castro/Eureka Valley, Potrero Hill, Glen Park, Diamond Heights, Noe Valley, Monterey and South of Market areas of SF. Bilingual, multicultural staff, sensitive to the needs of women with HIV. 3850 17th St, SF. Info/appt: 554-9750.

Shanti Project offers emotional & practical support to people with AIDS, their friends, families & loved ones. 525 Howard St, SF. PWA Support Groups: daytime—Tues, Thurs, Fri; eves—Tues, Wed, Thurs. Friends, Family & Lovers Support Group: Wed & Thurs eves; Coping with Loss & Grief Support Group+Thurs eve. For info/location, or to volunteer as an emotional or practical support counselor (training provided) call 777-CARE.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services offers 1-1 & group emotional support for persons with AIDS & ARC, their families & significant others. Also info/referrals; case management/coordination & attendant care services. Extensive volunteer activities available. Info: 572-9702.

AIDS Interfaith Support Committee of Sonoma County: persons of any faith tradition welcome (707) 762-0107.

AIDS Interfaith Network of the Eastbay: monthly healing services. 2nd Sun, 3 pm, Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 3755 13th St at Park, Oakl. Info: (510) 523-5011.

AIDS Interfaith of Marin: Diverse group of clergly & spiritual seekers who serve persons with AIDS, their families, friends, loved ones & caregivers. Info: Rev Dave Martin 457-1129 or write to 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, #12, San Anselmo, 94960.

The Center for AIDS Services provides compassionate support services for perople with AIDS/ARC/HIV & their caregivers in Alameda County. Day Center (meals, housing referrals, therapeutic massage, social activities, laundry & shower facilities, support group & van transportation); Counseling (advocacy, referrals, in-depth psychotherapy); Volunteer Services (provide assistance with cooking, cleaning, shopping, transportation, etc); Food Bank (groceries & nutritional supplements). 5720 Shattuck Ave, Oakl 94609. (510) 655-3435.

Van Transportation Program for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV in Alameda County. Transport to & from healthcare appts. Info: The Center (510) 655-3435.

Interreligious Coalition on AIDS, a network of AIDS caregivers from the SF religious community, offers a directory of AIDS-sensitive clergy from a diverse range of religious traditions and ethnic backgrounds. Info: Bob Nelson 558-7066.

Kairos Support for Caregivers: Offers groups, grief support & resource materials for partners, spouses, friends & family members of persons affected by HIV/AIDS. Intro sessions Thurs 7:30 pm. Weekly open house Fri 5-7 pm. Everyone welcome! 114 Douglass St, SF. Info: 861-0877

Home Care Companions, Inc offers free home care skills workshops for PWAs, their partners, family & friends. Get practical advice needed to help manage HIV disease at home. Licensed professionals teach the basics in a frank, positive atmosphere. The 5-evening course is offered monthly. Info/res: Celi Adams, RN 824-3269.

AIDS Project of the East Bay sponsors support groups throughout the Bay Area for people with AIDS/ARC. Info: (510) 834-8181.

Parents Support Group: for parents of children living with AIDS/ARC. Open to parents with children of any age, facilitated by two parents of a person with AIDS. Issues that arise for parents can be difficult to deal with alone, come talk to other parents who've been there. Oakland location. Spons by AIDS Project of the East Bay. Info: (510) 834-8181.

Parents & Family Support Group: wkly drop-in group gives support to families of origin of people with AIDS. Wed 7-9 pm at Coming Home Hospice, 115 Diamond St, SF. Spons by Visiting Nurses & Hospice of SF. Info: Gail Bigelow 861-8705.

Lovers, Friends, & Family of People with AIDS/ARC Group meets in Berkeley. Mon 6-8 pm. Info: AIDS Project of the East Bay (510) 834-8181.

Project Inform: Provides info on available treatments for HIV/AIDS (both experimental & FDA-approved), and conducts advocacy work on public policy issues affecting treatment access. Services include national toll-free hotline; fact sheets & bulletins; and more. 1965 Market St, Ste 220, SF 94103. Call (415) 558-9051 or (800) 334-7422.

Treatment Action Network (TAN): grass-roots advocacy group launched by Project Inform. TAN is a nat'l network of activists who contact elected officials, govt administrators & drug companies to lobby for critical HIV treatment & research issues. For more info & action updates, call (415) 558-9051 in SF or (800) 334-7422 in Calif, (800) 822-7422 elsewhere in the US.

SF Public Library for the Blind & Print Handicapped offers audio tapes & records to SF residents who can't read print due to physical illness or disability. Unabridged reading material & the equipment needed to play it provided free. All exchanges can be done by mail. Info: 558-5035.

Couples Group for people with AIDS & their partners. Deal with improving communication, problem-solving & other relationship issues. 6 wk groups start every other month. For info call AIDS Health Project 476-6430

Couples Support Group spons by Shanti Project. A group for couples where one or more partners has AIDS. Info: 777-CARE.

Berkeley HIV + Support Group: free, confidential, professionally-facilitated group meets wkly in eves. Limited membership. Low-cost individual counseling also available for PWA/ARC/HIV-positive. Info: Pacific Ctr (510) 841-6224.

HIV-positive/ AIDS Support Groups spons by Project Eden. Groups for PWAs, HIV-positive people, their lovers, friends & families. A safe place to share feelings. Mon & Wed. Info: (510) 887-0566.

Men's Couples Group: focus on the stress of coping with a partners' illness or anxieties. Mon eves, 7:30-9 pm, free. Spons by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. Info: (510) 834-8181.

Lovers, Family & Friends of People with AIDS/ARC. Operation Concern's AIDS Family Project offers individual, couple & family counseling; plus support groups for the loved ones of people with AIDS/ARC. Info: 626-7000.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel: assists persons with AIDS, ARC or serious HIV infection on a wide range of legal problems, including wills & powers of attorney, housing difficulties, government benefits, employment programs & other issues. Services are free or reduced fee. Call 291-5454.

Insurance/Employee Benefits Legal Clinic for people with HIV infection. Free 45 min consultation with a lawyer to address your insurance questions or problems. Every Thurs, 6:15-8:30 pm. By appointment only, call the AIDS Legal Referral Panel: 291-5454.

Bankruptcy/Creditor Problems Legal Clinic for People with HIV Infection: Free presentation by a bankruptcy lawyer concerning how to handle creditor problems, plus free one-on-one consultation. 2nd Wed of every month, 6:30-8:30 pm, at the Gazebo, Davies Medical Center, Castro & Duboce, SF. Info/reg: AIDS Legal Referral Panel 291-5454.

Peter Claver Community offers housing to persons with AIDS or ARC who are homeless or unable to secure stable housing. Info: 563-9228. Spons by Catholic Charities AIDS/ARC program.

JFCS AIDS Project: Jewish Family & Childrens' Service offers services to Jewish people with AIDS & ARC, their loved ones & families: counseling, case management, PWA/PWARC support group looking at illness in a Jewish context, emergency financial assistance, meal delivery, practical support volunteers, & support for out-of-town family members. Also speakers' bureau. Coordinator: Jody Reiss 561-1241. 1600 Scott St, SF 94115.

Emergency Health Fund spons by Catholic Charities: provides funds for PWAS/PWARC with incomes of less than $1000/month, to help in emergency situations. Info: 864-7400, ask for the AIDS/ARC Division.

GAPA Community HIV Project: Spons by the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, this group provides emotional & pratical support, including counseling, housekeeping, shopping, hospital & home visits, running errands, and preparing special meals. For more info contact Danny Yu 575-3939.

Group for Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men—Thurs 7:30-9 pm. Spons by Gay Asian Pacific Alliance. Info: 554-9760.

Group for HIV+ Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men: Thurs 7:30-9 pm. Spons by GAPA Community HIV Project. Call Paul 575-3933 for info.

Sex, Dating & Relationships: Ongoing group offered by GAPA Community HIV Project: For Asian or Pacific Islander gay/bisexual men who want to discuss these issues in an informal small-group setting. Group meets every 3rd Tues of the month at GCHP, 1841 Market ST, SF. 2nd floor. 7-9 pm. Info: Prescott 575-3939.

Asian American Communities Against AIDS: Provides counseling, referrals & case management services to the Asian/Pacific Islander communities in SF. Chinese, Pilipino, Japanese & Vietnamese individuals are encouraged to call & discuss issues around sex, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS. Free & confidential. Info: 563-0553.

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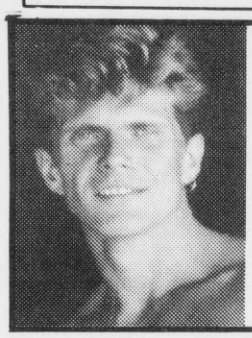

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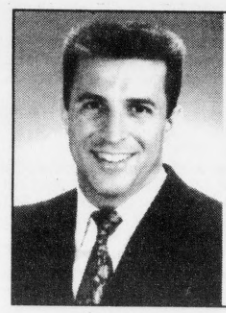

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in center for people with AIDS in Contra Costa County. Hrs: Mon-Fri 9 am-9 pm. Info: (510) 686-DVAC or write PO Box 139, Concord CA 94522.

Napa Valley AIDS Project provides education, support groups, benefits counseling, volunteer services & more for HIV + Napa County residents. Info: (707) 258-2437.

Peninsula Gay Men with HIV/AIDS: Ongoing, confidential emotional support group meets in San Mateo. Free. For info call Jonathan at the AIDS Program 573-2587.

Qi Gong Instruction offered at low charge ($1 per class) to SF residents with HIV/AIDS by the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Qi gong is a excercise/meditation practice from China which helps cultivate vitality & build endurance. Classe held Mon & Wed mornings, 11 am-noon at the ACTCM Community Clinic, 450 Conneticut St on Potrero Hill in SF. Instructor Charles Alston, LAc. Info/reg: 282-9603. Space limited.

Ongoing poetry workshop for HIV positive gay men. Thurs 3-5 pm. Info/location: Darrell 221-8779.

Stop AIDS Mtg for men 50 & older. Meet other gay & bisexual men your age at a free, one-time, informal meeting to talk about safe sex; confidentially share your feelings, ideas & knowledge about AIDS and the effect it is having on us. Meetings are pro-gay & sex-positive, and designed to show us that we can still carry on sexual relationships. Info/reg: 621-7177.

Pacific Center, Berkeley, offers several peer-support groups for people with HIV & AIDS. Call (510) 548-8283 for info.

The Immigrant HIV Assistance Project of the Bar Association of SF provides free legal assistance for HIV positive immigrants residing in SF who need help with their immigration cases. Call 267-0795 for more info.

Food for Thought: AIDS food program for people with AIDS & ARC in Sonoma County. Free groceries, sundries. For info, or to volunteer or donate, write PO Box 1357, Guerneville, CA 95446 or call (707) 887-1647.

Gay Rescue Mission helps people with AIDS/HIV thru transitional housing, low-income shared housing resources, grocery bags, clothing, personal care items, referrals. For info call 863-0516, 9 am-5 pm, Mon-Fri.

The Living Room (Revival Inc): a social club for people with AIDS, ARC & HIV + & for all who are concerned & care. Not a support group, not a bar, but an alternate social setting for those seeking a quality atmosphere. Wheelchair Accessible. 4035 18th St at Castro (next to Hot 'n Hunky). Call 252-1150 for hours & other info.

STOP AIDS Mtgs for gay & bisexual men. Meet 12-15 other guys for a one-time, free, informal mtg to talk about safe sex, coping with the epidemic, & what you can do to help end it. Evenings & wkend mtgs. Call Randy or Buck at STOP AIDS Project for reg/info: 621-7177.

Healing Alternatives Foundation (HAF) maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club offers substantial savings on products aimed at improving the health of PWAs/HIV+, including vitamins, minerals, herbals and more. Payment accepted thru AIDS Emergency Fund & Catholic Charities. Volunteers receive addt'l discounts on products. Hrs: Tues-Fri, noon-6 pm, Sat noon-5 pm. 1748 Market St at Valencia, SF. Info: 626-2316.

American Indian AIDS Institute: Provides education & prevention as well as case management & practical support services for HIV + American Indians. Referrals are welcome. One-on-one mental health services available. 333 Valencia St #200, SF 94103. Call 626-7639.

In-Home Counseling Center provides counseling on a donation basis for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV. Info: 931-6151.

Federal Benefits Seminars: twice-monthly seminar spons by the Client Services Dept of SF AIDS Foundation, for federal employees with AIDS or ARC. Focus is on the benefits package available to federal employees who are currently employed, as well as those considering separation. The hour-long seminar is held 3rd Thurs of the month at 11 am & 4th Thurs at 5 pm, and is led by a rep from the Dept of Health & Human Services. At SF AIDS Fdn Client Services Office, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF. 6th floor. Info/res: call the on-duty social worker 864-5855, pre-reg by phone is required.

Services for deaf & hearing impaired people infected with HIV: Offered by the UCSF Center on Deafness (UCCD). Mental health services, interpreting services and psychosocial support. Info: 476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

The Hearing Society of the Bay Area provides services for people with hearing loss related to HIV infection. Group offers a hearing aid loan program, hearing loss & communication classes for people with HIV/AIDS, voc rehab, social work services, loans of assistive devices & other audiological services. Fees determined by income, ability to pay & eligibility for MediCal, Medicare or Dept of Rehab programs. Karen 693-5870 (voice), 834-1005 (TDD)

EACH (Early Advocacy & Care for HIV) provides info about HIV early intervention, HIV/AIDS treatments & clinical trials. One-on-one cosultations to help HIV-positive men with info, access & referrals to free medical care & other services. Spons by the Gay Men of Color Consortium for gay & bisexual men of all colors. 944 Market St, corner of Mason, SF. Ste 210. Info: 403-3800.

Tenderloin AIDS Resource Ctr: Serves the Tenderloin & South of Market communities. Info & referral, client advocacy, counseling, community education, case management, street outreach, support groups, assitance with the social service & health care system. Bilingual services available. (English/Spanish) services available. Free. Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. Info: 431-7476.

Lesbians with HIV: Individual psychotherapy & case management offered; groups & couples treatment available. Free. Spons by Operation Concern. For info call Miriam or Nan 252-6076.

Multi-Problem Drop-In Group for HIV positive men with substance use &/or mental health concerns at Operation Concern. Free. No reg necessary. 1853 Market St, SF. Tues 5:30-6:30 pm. Call 626-7000.

Can We Talk? Transgender Support Group meets at the Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center. Wed 1-3 pm. 187 Golden Gate Ave, SF. Info: Sheri 431-7476.

Santa Clara County HIV/AIDS Program provides medical evaluation, ongoing monitoring, treatment, benefits & nutritional counseling, case management & referrals at its Early Intervention Project. The Alternative Test Site provides free anonymous HIV antibody testing, with counseling & referral. 976 Lenzen Ave, San Jose. Info: (408) 299-4151.

SF Dept of Social Services offers the In Home Supportive Services program (557-5251) to provide assistance so that people with AIDS may remain in their homes (those with their own caretakers may receive reimbursent); other programs offered include: General Assistance (call 558-1095 to avoid waiting in lines), AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children (557-5721), MediCal (863-9892 or 557-5676 if a home visit is needed) & Homeless (557-6201) programs. Adult Protective Services program (557-5230) offers aid to victims of abuse. The HIV Family Services program (557-5403) offers assistance to AFDC families affected by HIV. The Fragile Infant Care Program (557-5157) finds foster parents for infants with HIV infection or AIDS, and recruits foster parents for this program.

Proyecto ContraSida P/V: Offers services for gay latinos & transgenders, groups for lesbianas & bisexual latinas. Prventive case management, workshops for writers & artists, cultural self-esteem building. 3690 18th St, SF. Info: 864-PCPV.

Nutrition & HIV: Free, objective info. Send self, addressed, 52 cent stamped, 9"×6" envelope to Gustavo Wong, RD, POB 5681, Berkeley 94705-0681. Info: (510) 547-7893.

Quan Yin Healing Arts Ctr offers affordable acupuncture & Chinese herbal therapies, chiropractic & massage therapy for people living with HIV. Staff includes Western medical doctor. All practitioners are HIV-certified. Hrs: Tues-Fri, noon-6 pm, Sat 9 am-3 pm. 1748 Market St at Valencia, SF. Info: 861-4964.

Castro Village Detox offers low-cost (based on ability to pay) acupuncture/herb detox therapy for alcohol/drug withdrawal for HIV-positive/PWA gay men. Info: Mark Denzin, LAc, 252-9040.

Pyramid Ridge Wellness Ctr: Scenic retreat focused on HIV healing. Offers private sessions & workshops. Uses effective energy technique that is non-invasive & non-biological. Fee based on ability to pay. Info: Carol Hannum (707) 869-0985.

Japanese American AIDS Project: Nihongo o hanasu nihonjin gay to lesbian no tame no AIDS ni kansuru soupan. Nihongo de dou 20 Japanese Community Youth Council, 1840 Sutter St, Ste 207, SF. Info: 563-0553.

Bayview-Hunter's Point Foundation offers free acupuncture & herbal treatment to people of color with HIV. Mon-Fri, 12:30-2:45 pm. 1625 Carroll St at 3rd, SF. Info: 822-8200.

HIV + Lesbian Support Group meets Mon 6-8 pm. Info: Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services 565-7683. Free. WA.

Lesbian/Bisexual Women & their HIV+ Women Partners Couples Support Group meets alternating Thurs, 6-8 pm. Info: Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services 565-7683. Free. WA.

Lesbian/Bisexual Women Partners of HIV+ Women Support Group meets alternating Thurs, 6-8 pm. Info: Lyon Martin Women's Health Services 565-7683. WA. Free.

HIV + African American Women's Support Group spons by Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services. Call 565-7683 for details. WA. Free.

Women's AIDS Network provides info, referrals & advocacy for women affected by HIV/AIDS and women service providers. Programs/services include speaker's bureau, educational resources developoent, special events & developing strategies for focusing HIV services & education toward women. Small emergency grants available to women with HIV/AIDS. Mtg held every first Tues of the month in SF. For details call voicemail 864-4376 ext 2007.

UCSF Positive Education Project conducts continuing education groups to help HIV positive gay men cope with the stress of living with HIV disease. If you T-cell count is btwn 200-500 call 597-9141.

AIDS Info BBS: Computerized info about treatments, studies, contacts, assistance & more. Periodical newsletters, newspaper articles & comments by and for PWA. 8-N-1, 24 hrs. 2400/1200 baud. Free since 7/25/85. Use modem to call (415) 626-1246.

Tai Chi Workout: Free to people with HIV. One hour of slow, therapeutic exercises based on the Chinese Tai Chi Chuan and Chi Kung forms. Relaxing, stress-reducing & invigorating. Supportive, no-push atmosphere. Meets Mon & Wed, 5:30-6:30 pm, 50 Oak St nr Van Ness & Market, SF. Info: Emilio 255-0265.

Free Acupuncture & Herbal Treatment Services offered by Bayview-Hunter's Point Foundation, thru funding provided by the Ryan White Care Grant. Free services offered to HIV positive people of color. Individuals with a history of substance abuse are also welcome. Services for people with other medical problems are available at nominal fee. 1625 Carroll St at 3rd, SF. Hrs: Mon-Fri, 7 am-2:45 pm. Info: 822-8200.

Visual Aid: Artists for AIDS Relief provides vouchers for art supplies to professional artists with life-threatening illnesses. Vouchers are redeemable at participating Bay Area art & photo stores. Applicants must have a letter of diagnosis of AIDS or other life-threatening illnesses. Info: 391-9663.

Positive Resource, Inc: Nonprofit job referral service for people who are HIV positive. Organization provides a pool of skilled personnel to corporations, small businesses & individuals who require temporary & permanent employees. Info: Dori 928-1448.

The Respite Care Program of Visiting Nurses & Hospice of SF (VNH) offers up to 250 hours of respite care services so that family caregivers may have a break from caregiving responsibilities. The program is supported by CARE Act ("Ryan White") funding, and there is no charge to clients who meet the eligibility criteria. Info: 861-6959 ext 554.

Hospice by the Bay is a certified provider of home health care & hospice services for persons with HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. People may receive these services in their homes or in a skilled nursing facility. Those eligible for services are also provided with practical/emotional support volunteers & support groups. Call 673-2020 for more information.

Veterans with HIV: You're not alone! Join fellow vets for an evening support group, camping trips & other social activities—free! Group meets at the VA clinic in Oakland, nr 12th St BART Station and all the bus lines. Both Eastbay & SF vets are welcome, the staff is very gay/lesbian-friendly! Info: Mike Rankin, MD (510) 273-7331.

"A Chanticleer Christmas Concert" at USF, Dec. 18 & 19. Check calendar listing for details. Photo by Christine Alicino.

► ADDICTION RECOVERY

Iris Project (division of the Women's Institute for Mental Health) provides help for women wanting to achieve & maintain sobriety; and is one of the few agencies providing services specifically for lesbians. Groups include: early, middle & ongoing recovery; women of color; HIV + lesbians; lesbian relationships in later recovery; & an education group. Individual counseling provided. For info/intake appt call 864-2364. 333 Valencia St, SF. Ste 222.

Women's Alcoholism Ctr provides residential, outpatient & educational services for women, children & families. 2261 Bryant St, SF. Info: 282-8900.

AJIRA (Addicted Jews in Recovery Anonymous). Wkly mtgs for AA, NA & OA members at SF Jewish Community Ctr, 3200 California St, SF. For times & other info: Claire Silver 346-6040 ext 240.

Lesbians in Recovery meet once a month for fun & mutual support, call 664-1295 for info/location.

Henry Ohlhoff Programs (SF & Marin) provide treatment for substance abuse & eating disorders in environments that are sensitive to the needs of gay men, lesbians & bisexuals. Residential services available for men, outpatient services available for women, men, adolescents & families. Info: Men's residential—621-4388 (SF), 883-2494 (Novato); SF/Marin outpatient—221-3354.

Discover Your Right Livelihood Group: Talk about career goals & interests in a safe, anonymous 12-Step environment. DA/ACA Right Livelihood Meeting. 6:45 pm Mon at the Dry Dock, 2118 Greenwich St at Fillmore, SF. On the 22 Fillmore & the 43 Masonic Muni lines.

Castro Village Detox offers low-cost (based on ability to pay) services for people recovering from drugs and alcohol, see Health.

18th Street Services helps SF gay/bi men with alcohol/drug problems get clean & sober. Group/individual counseling. 217 Church St at Market, SF. Info: 861-4898.

Self-Mutilators Anonymous (SMA) of SF: Meets 1st & 3rd Sat of each month, 6:30-7:30 pm in the Castro. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. This is a closed meeting, please call (707) 528-9216 for more info. SMA is a recovery program based on the 12 Steps.

Free Drop-in Groups for lesbians, gay men and bisexual women & men with alcohol and/or other drug problems. Drop-in group for women meets Mon, 7-8 pm; drop-in group for men meets Thurs, 7-8 pm. Info, support & referral for substance abuse problems. Spons by Operation Recovery (part of Operation Concern). 1853 Market St, SF. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: 626-7000 TTY: 252-8376.

Operation Recovery (part of Operation Concern) provides individual & group counseling for lesbians, gay men & bisexual women & men with alcohol and/or other drug problems. People with other mental health problems, who are taking psychiatric medications, and/or living with HIV, are welcome. SL fee, no one denied services because of inability to pay. For info/intake appt: 626-7000. TTY: 252-8376. 1853 Market St, SF. WA.

AIR (Alternatives in Recovery) Circle for those seeking reocvery based in spirituality & peer support, but not limited to the 12-Steps. Group seeks to expand the context in which our healing process can unfold, especially in areas of addiction/compulsion lying beyond substance abuse. All sincere seekers welcome. Info: Tree 242-1535.

Weight-Loss Support Group for Gay Men who prefer their support without the 12-Steps, Hail Marys or sworn allegiance to a higher power. Wkly meetings to share encouragement, exercise, recipes, some activites. Write PO Box 422502, SF CA 94142.

Women's Feminist Alternative to Patriarchal 12-Step Programs: Group is inclusive and validating of each women's experience. Based on Charlotte Kasl's book, *Many Roads, One Journey* and her 16-Steps for Discovery & Empowerment. Meets Mon at Old Wives Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia St, SF. 7:30 pm. Info: Constance 285-7017.

Adult Men Anonymous: Men supporting Men. Group meets every Fri 7-8:30 pm. Open & supportive. Share experiences, strength, hope & joy. Discuss ACA, SLAA, OA, co-dependence, loneliness, dysfunctionl relationships, multicultural topics. Free. 2333 Buchanan at Clay, SF. Take elevator down to "A" level, go thru dining area to 2nd room on your left. Info: 928-4474.

► ARCHIVES

The Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California collects, preserves & disseminates materials related to local gay & lesbian experience. Also sponsors public programs & wkshops on lesbian/gay history. Info: 626-0980, or write: GLHSNC, PO Box 424280, SF, 94142. Hrs: Sat & Sun 2-5 pm, or by appt. You must call ahead before coming to Archives.

Lesbian & Gay Books & Magazines available at the Eureka Valley Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library, 3555 16th St, SF. 3-wk loan. Hrs: Mon, Thurs, Fri 1-6 pm; Tues 10 am-6 pm; Wed 1-9 pm. Donations of lesbian & gay material, bequests or checks payable to the Gay & Lesbian Collection (SFPLGLC) are very welcome (and tax deductible). Info: 554-9445.

Women's Cancer Resource Ctr Library: Research & lending library contains books, periodicals and clipping files about cancer and women's health issues. Library will mail out info & answers questions over the phone. Hrs: Tues 2-5 pm, Wed 4-7 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. Info: (510) 548-9272. 3023 Shattuck Ave at Emerson, Berkeley.

DAIR (Documentation of AIDS Issues & Research) maintins a categorized collection of over 150,000 clippings from magazines, newspapers & other sources on AIDS & related subjects, from the 1970s to the present. Hrs: 11:30 am]4 pm Sat, and by appt. Info: 673-0862. Mailing address: 2336 Market St #33, SF 94114.

The Oral History Project of the Lesbian/Gay Historical Society records on tape the lives & histories of lesbian, gay, transgender & bisexual people in SF & the Bay Area. Project also provides support for interviewers working on individual projects and coordinates group projects open to new volunteers. Training sessions in oral history interviewing held approx every 6 weeks. For more info call Lyndall or Nina Jo 626-0980.

► BISEXUAL GROUPS

Bay Area Bisexual Network: Umbrella organization for bisexual groups, resources & people. Open to everyone, whether or not they consider themselves bisexuals. Info: 564-BABN.

Bay Area Bisexual Women's Network: A loose network of bi women's groups around the Bay Area who offer support/discussion groups, spons wkshops & organize women-only events & social activities. For newsletter listing social activities & events as well as dates, times & discussion topics for support groups, write S, the Editor, PO Box 9388, San Rafael 94912.

North American Multicultural Bisexual Network (NABN) acts as a clearinghouse for resources, AIDS info & political alerts. Focus on visibility, education, pride. For info contact NABN, 584 Castro St, #422, SF 94114 or call 775-1990.

Bisexual Women of Color Group: Social/support group for bisexual women. Lesbian women welcome. Info: 922-1021.

Bi Women's Support Group: Meet other bi women, talk & share experiences in an informal setting. Group meets 7-9 pm on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Wed of each month, and 5-7 pm on the last Sun. Info/location: Ingrid 775-2620.

Bisexual Men of Color Group: Support group for bisexual men of color meets last Sun at 6:30 pm. For info/location call (510) 465-9671.

Bisexual Rap Group: Drop-in group for men & women interested in bisexuality. Warm, friendly people. Meets Sun 7-8:550 pm at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: (510) 548-8283.

Bi-Support Group at Pacific Center/Walnut Creek: 1250 Pine St, Walnut Creek. Info: (510) 939-7711.

Eastbay Bi Women's Support Group: Share & explore in safety. Mon eves. Info: Jessie (510) 232-4972 or Renee (510) 841-2101.

BFSF (BiFriendly-SF): social group open to bisexuals & bifriendly others. BFSF meets 7 pm Mon at Village Deli, 495 Castro St, SF for dinner & conversation with other bisexuals & friends. For confirmation, other activities/calendar: 648-6332.

Bi-Friendly UC: Rap & social group for all members of the UC Berkeley/UCSF community. Meets Wed, 6:30-8:30 pm. Location/info: (510) 642-6942. Spons by MBLGA (Multicultural Bisexual Lesbian & Gay Alliance). Wheelchair Accessible.

Bi-Friendly Eastbay: Call Betsy (510) 845-7441 for mtg location, time & other info.

Eastbay Bi Women's Social Group meets at the Tea Spot in Berkeley on Thurs, 7-9 pm. Info: Judith (510) 528-5331.

Bi-Friendly South Bay (BFSB) bisexual social group for men, women & bifriendly others in the South Bay/Peninsula area. Meets 2nd & 4th Mon of each month at Vicolo Pizzeria, 473 University Ave in Palo Alto at 7:30 pm. For info call 856-6901.

Side by Side peer support group for bisexual men & women in Sonoma County, meets every Wed in a safe, confidential & friendly environment. 7-7:30 social, followed by mtg till 9:30, with short social time after mtg. Focus on any issues brought up by those present, especially bisexual issues. New members welcome! Info: Colin (707) 823-2990.

Bi-Friendly Sonoma County: bisexual social/support group for men, women & bifriendly others in Sonoma/North Bay. Info: Colin (707) 823-2990.

Peninsula Bi-Guys group for men into male bonding, beach parties, massage, hot springs, houseboat trips, bicycling, hiking, dining out, theater, cards, games & great conversation. Info: Roger 369-1610 or PO Box 610071, Redwood City, 94061.

Women's Bisexual Network of Santa Cruz & Greater Monterey Bay Area: Support & discussion group welcomes any bisexual, questioning or bi-friendly woman. Mtgs 2nd & 4th Thurs of each month, 7-9 pm, followed by social at a local cafe. New participants are asked to attend the 2nd Thurs meeting. $3-5 donation requested. Quarterly network listings available, send SASE to BiNet, PO Box 934, Santa Cruz, 95061-0934. For location/info call (408) 427-4556.

Goddess-Oriented Bisexual Women's Social Group meets monthly. Info: 979-4023.

Marin Bisexual Social/Support Group meets in Central Marin on 1st & 3rd Wed of each month. Interested men & women are welcome. Info: Larry 454-5638.

Co-gender Bisexual Social Group for bisexual youth, spons by LYRIC. See Youth.

Bisexual Group meets every Wed eve, 7-9 pm in SF. Couples 30+ especially welcome. Info/location: 441-1866.

Jewish Bi's meet once per month for support/rap group. Alternate Eastbay/SF locations. Group does events for Jewish Bi's only, and also events for the entire Bi community & friends. Plus education on anti-Semitism & biphobia in the B/L/G communities and biphobia/homophobia education in the organized Jewish community. Info: Jim (415) 337-4566 or Susan (510) 528-7139.

Be sure to check the "social groups," "support groups" and "political" sections for related groups.

► CALL FOR ENTRIES

Bearing th **Unbearable:** Stories of Losing Lov Ones to AIDS: Submissions sough r an anthology edited by Leslea New n, to be published by Crossing Pre s. First person nonfiction narratives in prose & poetry sought. Send SASE for writers guidelines BEFORE sending manuscript to: Leslea Newman, Bearing the Unbearable, PO Box 815, Northampton, MA 01061. Deadline: 3/15/94.

Economics: Feminist/Womonist Theory & Practice for Survival in a Sexist System is t e topic of the first issue of a new femin womonist writer's journal. Editorial co mentary, short stories, poetry, re ws & illustration are welcome. ting sought from supporters of adical feminism, lesbian/womonist rights &

"Bigger Than a Bread Box"—Seattle's 4 Big Girls bring their comedy to Theatre Rhino, Dec. 29-31 (the 29th is a benefit for LGADDA—Lesbians & Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action). Calendar has all the info.

community-building, re-institution of the matriarchy and changing of our sexist & racist language as a tool of empowerment. Info: JB (510) 601-0966.

Peace of Art, a innovative publishing company, seeks original artwork & photography that depicts the trauma of AIDS. Creations will be published in a high-quality art book, with portion of proceeds going to support AIDS organizations. Send materials (slides, photos, etc) SASE to Peace of Art, 232 Cleveland Ave, Mill Valley, 94941. Info: (415) 380-9869 or (800) 576-9869. Deadline: 1/31.

► FUN & GAMES

UC Botanical Gardens: University of California-Berkeley Botanical Gardens feature 33 acres of native & exotic plants in educational & naturalized displays. Open daily, 9 am-4:45 pm. Free admission, free garden tours weekends at 1 pm. Centennial Drive above the UC Berkeley campus. Info: (510) 642-3343.

Game Night! 6-10 pm every Sat night at Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Drop-in, free. Play cards, scrabble, boggle, trivial pursuit, pictionary, or any game you bring. Come meet friendly folks, have some fun! Info: (510) 548-8283.

Whiptail Lizard Lounge: Alternative Dyke Space offers fun & games, music, conversation, etc for women in an alcohol and smoke-free environment. For event schedule see Main Calendar listings. 4035 18th St, SF (one block from Castro).

Coming Home Hospice Bingo: Every Thurs at Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St, SF. $12 buy-in/open 6/games 7.

Lezdance at Brew Moon Coffeehouse: 16248 Main St, Guerneville. Sat, 9 pm-1 am, $3 cover. With DJs Laney G & Jenny A.

Please check the "Hobbies" section for related groups.

► HEALTH

Quan Yin Healing Arts Ctr: Nonprofit clinic provides affordable acupuncture & Chinese herbal therapies; treatment for people living with HIV, chronic hepatitis, PMS, & other gynecological imbalances. Also offers Stop Smoking Clinic. Office hrs: Tues-Fri, 1-6:30 pm, Sat 9 am-3 pm. Info: 861-4964.

American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine: professional teaching clinic offers Chinese herbal medicine, acupuncture, tui-na (Chinese physio-massage) & Chinese nutritional counseling. SL fee. MediCal accepted. 450 Connecticut St at 20th (on Potrero Hill), SF. Info: 282-9603.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Sensitive primary health care for women by women, with emphasis on the health care needs of lesbians. Services include: gen'l medical care, gynecology, acupuncture, lesbian parenting, AIDS counseling & safe sex info (safe sex kits for women available). WA. SL. 1748 Market St nr Valencia, SF. Ste 201. Info/appt: 565-7667.

Lesbian Clinic of the Berkeley Women's Health Collective provides personal, affordable health care by lesbian practitioners. Gen'l medicine & chiropratic care to evaluate health needs. Gynecological, gen'l medical & mental health services available. Also feminist therapy referrals. Call for appt: 843-6194. WA.

Charlotte Maxwell Complementary Clinic offers free acupuncture, herbs, homeopathy, massage & visualization to low-income women with cancer. Volunteers welcome. Info: (510) 601-7660.

Women's Cancer Resource Ctr: info, support, resource & advocacy ctr for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families & practitioners. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in support groups, newsletter, educational programs, legal wkshops & more. For information on groups & programs offered call 548-9272 or 548-WCRC. 3023 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley.

Environmental Health Network provides fre support, info, referrals & advocacy for people with multiple chemical sensitivities. Mtgs held 1st Thurs of each month. Info: 541-5075.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic: testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun 5:30-7 pm. HIV Antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun, 6-7 pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Berkeley Free Clinic offers free gen'l health, dental, counseling & information services, plus referrals. Also has women's health clinic by & for women. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: 548-2570 (non-voice TDD 548-8238).

Planetree Health Resource Ctr: nonprofit ctr provides a place to go when you need more info about health or medical concerns. Get up-to-date medical info to assist you in making informed choices about your health. Ctr maintains extensive consumer health library, current medical lit clippings & health bookstore. Also support groups, health information service by mail, and more. 2040 Webster St, SF. Info: 923-3680.

Haight Ashbury Free Clinic Acupuncture Clinic provides acupuncture & Chinese herbal medicine as primary medical care, and for substance abuse recovery & detox. 60 Brady St, SF. Hrs: Mon-Thurs, 9 am-noon. Info: 863-1677.

Rainbow Clinic at UCSF provides pediatric care for children of gay & lesbian parents in a sensitive, caring environment. For info/appt call Tamar Gershon, MD, 476-1777.

The Wellness Community: A free program of hope, learning & friendship for adults with cancer, and their families. Offers support groups, workshops, resource library & social events. SF & Eastbay. Info: (510) 933-0107.

Castro Village Detox offers low-cost (based on ability to pay) acupuncture/herb detox theraphy for alcohol/drug withdrawal. Info: Mark Denzin, LAc, 252-9040.

► HOBBIES

Hortiphiles: a group for lesbians & gay men who enjoy growing plants. For info write PO Box 31, Palo Alto, 94301 or call 851-1022.

Phoebe Snow Society: int'l organization of gay rail fans. Gay men interested in trains, railroading & travel are welcome to join. Info: (510) 352-0301.

Single Lesbian Dogwalkers Group for single gay females with dog(s). Come meet others! Meet 1st & 3rd Sun at 11 as at Ft Funston, near the hang glider's bench. Info: Freddi 757-0142.

Gay Men's Sketch: informal drawing group for all skill levels. Classical nude modeling by gay male model in intimate home/studio setting. Tues, 7-9:30 pm. 1229 Folsom St, btwn 8th & 9th, SF. Call 621-6294 for reservations. Inquiries also accepted from men interested in modeling.

Greening the Mountain: Work party group for residents of the Castro, Haight & Buena Vista neighborhoods (everyone welcome). Group removes invasive shrubs & weedy plants on the Corona Heights hilltop (one of the last remaining native grasslands in SF). Meet last Sat of each month, 10 am-noon on the front steps of the Randall Museum, off Roosevelt Ave btwn 14th & 17th Sts. Bring work gloves, liquids & snacks. Info: Tom 252-0651.

Men's Nude Drawing Group: For men who like to draw the male form. Members of the group draw & pose for each other. Wed, 7-9 pm, free. Info/location: 626-8349.

Shadows of the Bay: Dark Shadows Society monthly social social gathering for fans & friends. Celebrate the lives, times & deaths of Barnabas, Angelique & the rest of the Collins clan. Potluck, videos, fun. 8 pm. Call Neil 255-7672 for info/location.

Bondage Buddies Group: Bi-weekly parties of play & socializing for gay men into bondage, harddicks & fun s/m. Open to top/bottom and experienced/novices. Info: 292-3228.

Lavendar Winds Kite Club: Group for gay/lesbian kitefliers, and those with an interest in kites. Lavendar Winds Kite Club is a chapter of the American Kitefliers Association. For more info write Brian, PO Box 5118, #464, Fremont 94537 or call (510) 797-6997.

Dreamers & Dreamworkers Group for those interested in searching the creative power of dreams. Group of loyal friends meets regularly to share our dreams & help each other discuss the meaning of inner thoughts. Info: 584-1034.

Quicktricks, America's only accredited lesbian & gay bridge club, offers 8-wk series of classes for beginners (you can start at anytime). Call 641-4355 for info.

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual International Folkdancing Group meets Tues, 7:30-9:30 at Eureka Valley Recreational Center on Collingwood St in the Castro, SF. Learn mostly line dances from Bulgaria, Macedonia, Israel, Canada, Scandanavia, etc. Beginners are welcome! No partner needed. Teaching 7:30-, dancing 8-9:30. Info: Jim 585-9784. Group is about evenly split, male & female.

Gay Macintosh Users Group meets every 4th Mon: 7 pm social, 7:30 pm program. Nonprofit. Everyone welcome! New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF. Info: 552-GMUG.

Amazon Sewing Circle Stich & Bitch Group: For lesbians and gay men in the Eastbay. Info: Boadecia's Books, (510) 559-9184.

Fremont Gay Men's Bowling League: See Sports.

Women: Like to read? Talk about books? Come share an informal potluck and book discussion. Women's reading group meets monthly on Sundays. Info/location: Nancy 221-5623.

Gay Men's Genealogy Discussion Group meets monthly in a library for exchange of ideas, information & research leads. Interests range from recent immigrants to Mayflower lineages. All levels, from beginners to professionals, are welcome. Mtgs held on the 3rd Sun of each month. For details call Larry 647-0637 or Charles 441-7329.

Ham Radio Group: Lambda Amateur Radio Club/Golden Gate holds monthly mtg, 2nd Thurs of each month. Info: 863-1196.

► HOTLINES AND REFERRALS

SF Sex Information Switchboard: Mon-Fri, 3-9 pm. Info and referrals on all aspects of sexuality, for all ages & lifestyles. 621-7300.

SF Gender Information: Nonprofit service provides referrals & networking to transsexual & other members of the gender community in the SF/Bay Area & northern Calif. For listings ($3 fee) & other inquiries send SASE to: SFGI, PO Box 423602, SF CA 94142.

Battered Lesbian 24-hr hot-line, individual counseling, support grps & legal advocacy clinics. Info: Liz at WOMAN Inc. 864-4722.

San Mateo Battered Women's Services offers a 24-hr hotline, individual counseling, support groups, legal assistance & shelter. Call 342-0850.

Battered Women's Alternatives: Eastbay resource for lesbians experiencing emotional or physical abuse. Call (510) 676-2845.

Call CUAV (Community United Against Violence) to report harassment, hate violence, intimidation by neighbors or workmates. Counseling, advocacy, info & referrals offered. 24-hr hotline: 333-4357

Gay Domestic Violence: info, peer counseling for gay & bisexual men who batter. Referrals for victims of battering. Spons by MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence). Info: 626-MOVE.

Battered Gay & Bisexual Men & Transgenders: 24-hr hotline, in-person counseling, restraining orders, support groups. Call CUAV 333-4357 (crisis) or 777-5500 (non-emergencey). Confidential.

Bay Area Lesbian/Gay Switchboard trained volunteers at Pacfic Ctr listen to your concerns. Also Bay Area & nationwide info—from sports, entertainment, rap groups, counseling, AIDS info. Services provided for the hearing impaired. Call (510) 841-6224.

Epicenter Switchboard: Free, non-profit information & refferal service offered by Epicenter Zone. The switchboard provides social services information for SF and the Bay Area—healthcare, housing, youth services, legal aid, disabled needs, activists groups, employment, women's needs; lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender services, crisis lines, parenting help, and much more. Hrs: Mon-Sat, noon-6 pm. Call 431-4600.

SF Rape Treatment Center: 24-hr hotline—206-3222. Call for crisis intervention, medical treatment, in-person counseling and optional legal evidence collection for adult survivors of sexual assault. SFRTC is a multicultural organization supportive of lesbian, gay, biseuxal and transgender people. All services are free and confidential.

Rape Crisis Center of Contra Costa & Marin: 24-hr crisis line for sexual assault & abuse survivors. Call (510) 236-7273, (510) 798-7273, (510) 439-7273 or (415) 924-2100.

SF AIDS Foundation Hotline: (Spanish/English) info & referral to SF & No Calif (800) FOR-AIDS, TDD 864-6606. Tagalog AIDS Hotline: 1-(800) FIL-AIDS (voice/TDD). Hrs: 9 am-9 pm Mon-Fri, 11 am-5 pm Sat & Sun.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel: see AIDS Resources for details. Info: 291-5454.

Poison Control Central: 24 hr service. Over-the-phone help w/ poison emergencies. Call 476-6600.

SF Drug Line: support, info, referrals on drug problems/treatment. Call 752-3400.

Discriminated Against because of your sexual orientation? Contact SF Human Rights Commission, Lesbian/Gay Liaison Unit. There are local laws to protect you. Info: 252-2500.

Renters: Learn Your Rights! Old St. Mary's Housing Committee offers counseling & special clinics on various housing issues, including evictions, leases, etc. For info/appt: 398-0724.

SF Tenants Union: provides free walk-in or telephone counseling for members, walk-in only counseling for non-members. Call 282-6622 for info. 558 Capp St, SF.

Sentinel Fair Housing: nonprofit agency investigates complaints of housing discrimination & provides comprehensive housing counseling to residents of Northern Alameda County (also referrals for out-of-area persons). If you think you have been discriminated against, call (510) 836-2687 for help/info/referral.

ECHO Housing, a nonprofit housing agency in Alameda County, offers services to Alameda County residents including deposit & delinquent rent guarantees. (In northern Alameda County call the Rental Assistance Program (RAP) at (510) 836-4826, in southern Alameda County call RAP at (510) 581-9380). Echo also offers a county-wide homeseeking program, call (510) 581-9380 for details.

Senior Information Line: events & services available to seniors in SF, spons by SF Commission on Aging. Newsline: 552-6016. Anyone wishing to add an event should call 626-1033.

Eldercare Locator: Provides access to an extensive netowrk of organization sreving older people at state & local community levels. Call (800) 677-1116. Spons by the Nat'l Assoc of Area Agencies on Aging.

Neighbors Driving You Crazy? Community Boards can help—CB is a free, fast & effective dispute resolution service

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for SF residents with problems: renter/owner disputes, noise, pets, money disputes, family or housemate problems, etc. Call 239-6100 & get relief.
GLADRS (Gay & Lesbian Alternative Dispute Resolution Service) offers free, confidential panel mediation services. Get help developing a mutually-created & agreed upon solution to interpersonal, tenant/landlord, inter-and intra-group/agency and other disputes from trained lesbian, gay & bisexual mediators. Call 552-4135. 3543 18th St, Box 28, SF 94110.
Bay Area Bisexual Speakers Bureau: addresses all topics related to bisexuals. Speakers available. Call 564-2226.
SF Women Against Rape provides individual & group counseling for rape survivors; also does advocacy & educational work. Info: 647-RAPE. 3543 18th St, SF 94110.
Feminist Therapy Referral Project has provided psychotherapy referrals to Eastbay women therapists since 1971. SL fees & insurance are available, for info/appt, call (510) 843-2949.
California Youth Crisis Line provides the following services to young people who have run away from home, & to their parents: crisis intervention counseling, referrals to resource agencies & a neutral message center. For help call 800-843-5200.
Diamond Street Youth Shelter provides shelter to homeless kids in SF (see Youth). 536 Central Ave btwn Hayes & Grove: Bus lines: 21 Hayes or 5 Fulton. Free. Info: 567-1020.
Child Abuse Crisis Line for adolescent victims of child abuse. Spons by SF Suicide Prevention's Youth Line program. Peer counseling support line for young abuser survivors trained in emotional support, crisis intervention & referral resources. Call 752-2000 Mon-Thurs 5-11 pm, Fri & Sat 7 pm-2 am.
Lesbian Adoptees: For information on available resources, contact Amy Jane Cheney, 647-1492.
Calif Lawyers for the Arts (CLA): nonprofit offers legal info & education to artists. Info: 775-7200.
The Calif Network of Self-Help Centers, spons by the Calif Dept of Mental Health, offers referrals to more than 3,500 free or low-cost support groups statewide (Alcoholics Anonymous, Co-dependents Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, etc). For info call 1-(800) 222-LINK.
AIDS/HIV Nightline: Emotional support, gen'l info: 5 pm-5 am, seven nights a week. In SF, call (415) 668-AIDS. Northern California: 1-800-273-AIDS.
SF Suicide Prevention Crisis Line: 24 hrs, every day: 221-1423.
SF Youth Line: 752-2000
SF Drug Line: 752-3400.
Dial—A-Dyke: Free telephone bulletin board for women. Call (415) 241-1564 24 hrs a day.
La Raza Lawyer Referral Service (LRLS): Get consultation with an attorney experienced in the area of law you need. Info: 641-1069.
LYRIC Youth Talkine for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender & questioning youth (23 & under): Talk to other young people, get info on events & activities. SF: 863-3636. Bay Area: 1-(800)-246-PRIDE.
Pregnancy & Parenting Resource & Referral Talk Line: Spons by Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services. Get info on concerns & questions regarding pregnancy & HIV, as well as general parenting issues. Fridays, 1-7 pm. Call 565-7674.
Deaf Gay & Lesbian Center *Informational Hotline: 255-9944 TDD. News, updates & info on Deaf lesbian & gay mtgs & events, community news and more. Hotline changed weekly on Mondays. Voice callers use California Relay 1-800-735-2922 if you do not have access to a TDD.*

► INCEST AND BATTERY

Survivors of Incest, Anonymous : 12-step, self-help group meets Thurs, 6:00-7:45 pm at the Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph at Derby, Berkeley.
Ritual Abuse Survivors ACA Mtg: Women & men share all aspects of healing from ritual abuse. Sat at 1 pm, MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Info.
SIA: Unrestricted discussion with main focus on ritual abuse. Group meets every Mon, 6-7:30 pm at Pacific Center. Mixed group, m/f. Info: Tina (510) 845-1801.
Lesbian Ritual Abuse Survivors Support Group meets weekly to share healing & support. Longterm group meets Wed eves. Free. Not a drop-in group. Call (510) 534-9928 for info.
Sexual Assault & Abuse Survivors offered individual therapy, support groups, legal advocacy & crisis line thru Rape Crisis Center of Contra Costa and Marin. Info: (510) 236-7273, (510) 798-7273, (510) 439-7273 or (415) 924-2100.
Partners of Survivors of Incest Anonymous: Support group for partners of incest survivors, ritual abuse survivors, and multiple personalities. Tues, 8-9:30 pm, free. Mandana House, 541 Mandana, Oakl. Info: (510) 839-8844.
Gay & Bisexual Men Who Batter: Are you feeling ashamed, afraid or angry about having been violent with the man you love the most? MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence) provides assistance & support for change in a safe, confidential place. Info: 626-MOVE.
Overcoming Violent Behavior Anonymous-SF: 12-step fellowship for batterers, based on the principles of AA. Women-only mtg. Thurs 6:30-7:30 pm, Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of SF, 150 Eureka St, SF.
Support Group for Gay & Bisexual Men & Transgenders who are being emotionally, physically and/or sexually abused by their male partners. For info, call CUAV 777-5500. Confidential.
Support Group for Lesbians who are or have been in a battering relationship; SL. Info: Women Inc.: 864-4722.
Battered Women's Alternatives: An Eastbay resource offering services for lesbians experiencing emotional or physical abuse. Support group, shelter, counseling, legal advocacy. Info: (510) 676-2845.
Battered Lesbian Outreach: offered by Sonoma County YWCA Women's Emergency Shelter Program. Info: (707) 546-1234. Call—you are not the only one.
Battered Lesbian 24-hr hot-line, individual counseling, support grps & legal advocacy clinics. Info: WOMAN Inc. 864-4722.
Peninsula Battered Lesbian & Bisexual Women Support Group: Free, confidential group offered by Support Network for Battered Women. Individual counseling & legal assistance also available. Info: Anne, Support Network for Battered Women, 940-7855.
Battered Lesbian Support Group for lesbian & bisexual women who have been physically, emotionally or sexually abused in their relationships. 8-wk group is focused on supporting women to begin the healing process & learn to have loving, safe relationships. Info/res: Alison McKenzie or Mary Lee Gates at Marin Abused Women's Services 457-2464.
La Casa de las Madres provides shelter for battered women & their children. Info: 777-1808.
Services for Battered Women: Counseling, referrals & support for women who have survived domestic violence. Free & bilingual (Eng/Span). Call Cristina at 552-2943 for info.
Servicios Para Mujueres Maltratadas: Consejo individual, recomendaciones a recursos comunitarios y apoyo para jujreres que han sobrevivido la violencia domestica. Servicios son gratuitos y bilingues esp/ing. Llame a Cristina a 552-2943 para mas informacion.
For more listings under this category, see the *SF Bay Times* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under **"Incest/Battery Therapy/Support Groups".**

► PARENTING & FAMILY RESOURCES

Prospective Queer Parents Group for lesbians & gay men seeking co-parenting or known donor situations. Call Leland (510) 841-4663 for more information.
Black Female Couples With Children Group meets for support, socializing & fun. Eastbay & SF locations. Single moms are welcome! Info: Erika or Elisha (510) 293-0711.
Lesbian Moms of Young Children/Babies: Interested in networking in the Eastbay. Come to potluck/brunch—call 540-7171 for details.
Lesbians with Babies Group meets in SF. For info/location: Paula 206-1170.
Southbay Gay Parents: an organization for gay fathers & lesbian mothers. Meets 3rd Sun of each month in the San Jose area for mutual support & for exploring parenting issues. For information call (408) 293-4525 for more info.
Lesbian Mother Support Group meets Tues 10:30 am-noon at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF. Info: Saralie Pennington, LCSW 626-7000, ext 173.
Group for Lesbian/Gay Parents or Parents-to-Be: Support, socializing, potlucks, kids' activities. Info: 648-6169.
Ever Given Up A Child for Adoption? Ongoing support group for birthmothers: offers support for healing our losses, help in searching for our children. Info: 626-8124.
Adoption Support Groups for adult adoptees, birth parents & adoptive parents. Info: Post-Adoption Ctr for Education & Research (510) 935-6622.
Chain of Life: feminist adoption reform newsletter, supports open records & search & reunification of adoptees & birth families; critiques traditional adoption practices. Edited by adoptee. For backlist/info send SASE to Chain of Life, PO Box 8081, Berkeley, CA 94707.
NOCIRC (Nat'l Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Ctrs) offers education, information & support about circumcision. Learn why circumcision is physically & emotionally damaging to children. Info: 488-9883.
GLADRS (Gay & Lesbian Alternative Dispute Resolution Service) offers free, confidential panel mediation services. Get help finding a mutually created and agreed upon solution to custody, property & other family disputes from trained lesbian, gay & bisexual mediators. Info: 552-4135. 3543 18th St, SF, Box 28, SF 94110.
Lesbian & Gay Parenting Program offered by Lyon Martin Clinic. Offers ongoing seminars, wkshops, small groups & forums for lesbians & gays thinking about parenting, and for lesbian & gay families; including 8-wk "Lesbians Considering Parenthood," and "Gay Men Considering Parenthood," Call Lyon-Martin 565-7674 for info.
The Rainbow Clinic at UCSF is a pediatric clinic for children ages 0-18, with lesbian & gay parents. Health care provided by lesbian & gay providers in a sensitive, supportive environment. Info/appt: Tamar Gershon, MD (415) 476-1777.
Operation Concern offers psychotherapy for gay/lesbian families, families with gay/lesbian children (any age), blended families and mixed orientation couples. Call Saralie Pennington at 626-7000 ext 173 to schedule an appt.
Pregnancy & Parenting Resource & Referral Talk Line: Spons by Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services. See Hotlines & Referrals.
Be sure to check the *SF Bay Times* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under "Parenting" and the Parents & Kidsbox for other parenting services/info.

Blues artist Earl Thomas plays Slim's, Dec 16, 22 & 29, and Petaluma Dec 17. Check calendar for details.

► PEOPLE OF COLOR

Black & White Men Together Rap/Socials: every Sat at 1350 Waller St nr Masonic, SF. Rap 6:30-9 pm. For info/mtg topic: 826-BWMT.
Bisexual People of Color Caucus: resource, support, political action, social group. Info: Lani 821-3534.
Lesbians of Color/Third World Lesbian Support Group meets Thursdays, 6:30-8pm; $3 donation (no one turned away for lack of funds); Pacific Ctr, Telegraph & Derby, Berk. Info: Camille Barber; (510) 548-8283.
Bisexual Women of Color Group—See Bisexual Groups.
Bisexual Men of Color Group—See Bisexual Groups.
Zebra Brigade: Social organization for Black and white lesbian couples. Mtgs in SF & Eastbay. For more info call (510) 528-9429.
African American lesbians 40+: monthly mtg for social activities, potluck, card & board games, theater outings & sports events. Info: Francine (510) 268-9087.
Ache: Nonprofit community organization for lesbians of African American descent. Produces monthly & annual events; provides community outreach, education & networking; publishes a bimonthly magazine of articles, conference reports, poetry & community events for and about lesbians of African American descent. For more info call 849-2819 or write: Ache, PO Box 6071, Albany, CA 94706.
Black Female Couples With Children Support Group: See Parenting.
Asian Lesbian Potluck Brunch Group meets every 4th Sun, 10 am-noon, free. A support group for Asian lesbians 35 yrs & over. Info: (510) 482-0787 or (415) 255-7560.
APBS: African American Designers: Collective of African-American fashion designers, see Professional Groups.
Free Acupuncture Services offered by Bayview-Hunter's Point Foundation for HIV positive people of color, see AIDS Resources for details.
Third World People with AIDS/ARC group spons by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. See AIDS Resources.
Asian/Pacific HIV-Positive Gay Men's support group offered by GAPA (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance), see AIDS Resources.
AIDS/HIV Info Group for Asian & Pacific Islander Men. Drop-in, free. See AIDS Resources for details. Spons by GAPA.
Gay Asian Rap Group in SF, spons by Gay Asian Pacific Alliance. Meets every other Wed, 7-9 pm. Info: 282-GAPA.
Trikone: Support group for gay & lesbian South Asians (people of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan & Nepali descent). Meets 1st Sun of each month at 6 pm in San Jose. For more info write PO Box 21354, San Jose 95151-1354 or call (408) 270-8776.
CASA: Community Alternative Social Assoc. A multiracial social & community service organization for gay latinos & friends. Mtgs held every 2nd Sat of each month at Dolores Street Community Center, 208 Delores St, SF. 5-7 pm. All are welcome! Call 552-6433 for more info.
GELAAM: Gente Latina de Ambiente. A Latino/Latina lesbian, gay & bisexual organization that promotes the improvement of our community at a political, cultural, social & educational level. Gen'l mtgs every 4th Sat of every month. Newsletter & various activities. For more info write to GELAAM, 2261 Market St, PO Box 300, SF 94114 or call 267-4892.
AGUILAS (Asamblea Gay Unida Impactando Latinos/as Superase). Gay Latino organization committed to advocating & developing activities in our community which encourage positive self identities, healthy relationships & leadership skills. For mtg times & other info call Juan 648-3702 for info/location.
Latin Lesbians of the Eastbay: Social group meets monthly. Info: (510) 530-3473.
Asian Pacific Sisters (APS): an organization by and for Asian and/or Pacific Islander women who are lesbians or bisexuals. APS seeks each woman's own unique experience, whether of Pacific Islander, East Asian, Southeast Asian, South Asian, or mixed heritage. American-born or immigrant, multilingual or monolingual, physically challenged or able, all are welcome! Call Candine (415) 621-2982 or Peg (510) 531-6879 for more information.
Asian Pacifica Lesbian Network (APLN): Nat'l network for lesbians & bisexual women of Asian/Pacific Islander descent. Monthly mtgs in SF or Oakland. For times, dates & other info call (415) 928-8885 or (510) 482-0787.
Asian & Pacific Islander Gay/Bi Men's Support Group: meets Tues 6:30-8 pm at Pacific Ctr. Gay Asian men of all ages are welcome. Info/res: (510) 841-6224. 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley.
Vietnamese Gay Men's Group: Share feelings, exchange information, give support. Monthly newsletter in English & Vietnamese. All Asians welcome. For details contact Brian Dang, 2200 Market St #95, SF 94114.
Vietnamese Lesbians' Group (VLG): Support group for Vietnamese lesbians & bi women, and Vietnamese women questioning their sexuality. Monthly mtgs, lots of food, fun & friends. Confidentiality respected. Info: (415) 575-3934 or (510) 676-3652.
Japanese American Gay Social (JAGS): Non-political, informal social group for persons of Japanese ancestry. Info: 584-7224.
Black Gay & Bisexual Men's Support Group: Drop-in. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley. Wed 8-9:50 pm. Info: (510) 548-8283.
Gay/Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA): group by & for gay men of Asian & Pacific Islander heritages. GAPA seeks to create a positive & visible presence for gay Asian/Pacifics in the SF Bay Area. Gen'l mtgs: every 2nd Sun of the month at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. 6-8 pm. Also bimonthly newsletter "Lavender Godzilla", write to PO Box 421884, SF CA 94142-1884 to subscribe. Info: GAPA Hotline 282-GAPA.
Support Group for Asian/Pacific Islander gay, lesbian & bisexual young people, 21 & under, spons by Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services' LYFE (Lambda Youth & Family Empowerment) program. Call Donna 565-7681 for info.
Pacific Friends-SF: Non-political organization whose sole purpose is to promote greater cross-cultural understanding & friendship between Asian/Pacific Islanders and other cultures, thru cultural, educational & social activities. Info: Elliot 564-7199.
Iranian Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Group: Meet others like you, get support. Info: Hasha, PO Box 460 495, SF 94146-0495.
African-American Men dealing with AIDS/ARC/HIV Support Group at SF AIDS Fdn, see AIDS Resources.
The Brothers Network provides emotional support to African American gay and bisexual men who are HIV+. Services include support groups, peer counseling. See AIDS Resources.
African-American Women with Cancer: Support group meets every other Mon 6:30-8 pm at the Women's Cancer Resource Ctr, 3023 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: (510) 548-WCRC or (510) 548-9272 for more information.
Lesbians of Color sobriety support group at Iris Project, see Addiction Recovery.
Motorcycle Club for Black gay women. Info: 1081 Alameda #117, Belmont CA 94002.
Artists of Color Open Mike Night at Ohama Cultural Ctr: Every 2nd & 4th Thurs of the month. 7 pm, $5. 4345 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. Info: (510) 658-1868.
Sonoma County Women of Color Fun Day: Meet other women of color at noon in the Northbay on first Sun of each month for hiking, movie-watching, shopping, beach trips, coffee, etc. Info: (707) 887-1221.
African-American Young Men: Discussion group spons by LYRIC, see Youth.
Bay Area Native Women Writers Circle for American Indian, Native Alaskan/Hawaiian, Canadian First Nations, and other international indigenous women writers—see Performance & Writing Groups.
Lesbians of Color Project of the National Center for Lesbian Rights welcomes interested lesbians of color to join the Lesbians of Color Community Advisory Committee. LOC Project provides free direct legal assistance, information & access to various lesbians of color communities. Info: Stephanie Smith, Lesbians of Color Project Coordinator, 621-0674.
Lesbians of Color Therapy Group meets Thurs 5:30-7 pm. Spons by Operation Concern. SL fee. 1853 Market St, SF. Info: Micaela Lovett, 626-7000.

► PERFORMANCE

Mothertongue Feminist Theater Collective welcomes any woman with ideas to share & stories to tell—writing & performing experience not necessary. Info: (510) 848-5966.
VOICES: Bay Area lesbian choral ensemble covers the musical map, performing everything from madrigals and contemporary music to blues & jazz. For more info or to be on mailing list call (510) 486-8984.
Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF invites you to join in making music & having fun. Ability to read music a plus, but not necessary. Rehearsal times & other info: 861-7067.
The Society of Gay & Lesbian Composers encourages the composition of music that conveys the attitudes, ideals & uniqueness of gay & lesbian cultures. Group sponsors 3 annual concerts, plus monthly business & social mtgs (usually in SF) where composers can meet & share their music & ideas. For info/location of next mtg call 333-2755. For brochure/membership application or other info write PO Box 14521, SF CA 94114.
GAWK (Gay Artists & Writers Kollective). Join rock musicians, singers, writers, cartoonists, comedians & others for eclectic, upbeat, fun socializing. Info: Jon Sugar 731-2424 or write (with SASE) 901 Stanyan St #14, SF 94117.
Fat Lip Readers Theatre: political theatre collective of fat, fiesty & diverse women who strut their stuff on stage & video, and in wkshops. Submissions of poetry, prose, stories & analysis with a fat liberation perspective are welcome & respected. Info: PO Box 29963, Oakl 94604; (510) 655-7404.
Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts: Multidisciplinary lesbian/gay arts organization offering instrumental, dance & vocal opportunities, and video opportunities, in a fun "family" atmosphere. The Center also offers studio & office rentals. 1519 Mission St, SF. Info: Lauren 554-0402.
Visual Artists Critique Group: Ongoing group mtgs provide consistent & informed feedback to visual artists. Queer artists, artists of color & activist artists are especially encouraged. Info: Claude 821-7931.
Mark I Chester's SEXART Salon: Salon & parties focused on sexuality & creativity. Participants share artwork (your own or someone else's) such as reading, performance & static art that explores sex, sexuality & eroticism. New performers welcome, regardless of experience. Events are open to men & women of all sexualities. Info: 544-1136 (leave message).
Bay Area Raw Rahs: Collegiate-style cheerleading/precision dance group open to men & women who are interested in mastering and performing dance routines, human pyramids, partner lifts & gymnastic stunts. Practices held Tues, 6-8 pm at Jon Sims Center, Mission St, SF. Info: Steve (510) 228-7497 or Michael (415) 863-0533.
SF Fringe Riders perform country western dance routines at fundraising & gay/lesbian events throughout Calif. Membership in this all-women dance troupe is open to all women who demonsrate dance ability and are intersted in promoting country western dancing. For membership info call (510) 482-1830; for performance or other info call (510) 939-4406 or (415) 647-9670.
931 Cloggers: All-women's clogging team from San Jose. Group performs at rodeos, conventions, SF Freedom Day Parade and many other charity events. Info: Jaci Murray (510) 264-1529.
LIPS: (Lesbian Installation Projects). Work on an installation concerning Sappho, with other lesbian artists. Artists in all media & musicians are welcome. Lunchtime potluck & ideas exchange. Info/location: (510) 222-7989.
Just A Stage Lesbian & Gay Improv Comedy Theater Group: Wkly open workshops in improv with Just A Stage performers. New members are always welcome! Info: Ed 824-7929.

► POLITICAL

Queer Nation: A working activist group which utilizes direct action to oppose & eliminate heterosexism & homophobia. For meeting times, location & info call the Queer Line, 985-7141.
Transgender Nation: A diverse group of transgendered and non-transgendered people united in anger & resolved to directly empower all transgendered people by direct political action. For info call 586-6409 or write 584 Castro St #288, SF 94114.
Queers for Cuba works to fight US blockade of Cuba & build solidarity with Cuban people, especially queers & people with AIDS/HIV. Group informs queer communities about Cuba, while combatting homophobia within the solidarity movement. Group is inclusive of gays, lesbians, bisexuals & transgender people, and operates from the belief that the struggle for queer liberation must also be a struggle against racism, sexism & class inequalities. For mtg time & place call 995-4678.
ACT UP East Bay currently works on insurance discrmination & housing issues.

Lu Read's "Merkinstock"—the nightclub offshoot of NY's "Wigstock"—plays at Slim's on Dec. 29. Pictured: "Chesty Baker."

Photo by Daniel Nicoletta.

Meets monthly, call (510) 836-4401 for time & place, or write PO Box 8074, Oakl CA 94608.

ACT UP/Golden Gate holds general meetings on Tues 7 pm at 590 Castro St, Ste B, SF (2nd level, call ahead if you need special assistance. Info: 241-8800, FAX 252-9277. Mailing address: 519 Castro St, MS-93, SF 94114.

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) works for fair & diverse coverage of lesbians, gays & bisexuals, and fights stereotypical portrayals in the print & electronic media. To report a defamation, call the hotlines: SF (415) 861-4588, EB (510) 273-9146, (SB) (408) 235-0229. Fax (415) 861-4893 or send photocopies or tapes to GLAAD, 514 Castro St, Ste B, SF 94114.

GLAAD East Bay meets 4th Sun of every month, 7 pm, at Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley.

GLAAD South Bay meets 4th Sun of every month at 7 pm, at the Billy DeFrank Center, 175 Stockton Ave, San Jose.

GLAAD North Bay: Meets 2nd Tues of each month, 7 pm at Spectrum Center for Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Concerns, 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Room #12, SF. Info: Kenny Altman 647-3055.

Lesbian Uprising! A feminist political, educational & cultural group of Bay Area lesbians who envision a return to the radical ideals of the women's liberation movement; recognize the deep connection between the personal & the political, & seek means to embody those connections in concrete ways. Group defends & empowers women by being visible, participating in street demos, etc. Group also meets twice monthly to discuss exciting feminist literature & theory. Interested? Call Gail 441-6238 or write PO Box 423555, SF CA 94142 for free copy of monthly newsletter/calendar.

Lesbian Avengers: Direct action group focused on issues vital to lesbian survival & visibility. Open to all women. Group meets Mon at 7 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. For info/location call 267-6195.

NGLTF (Nat'l Gay & Lesbian Task Force): Local unit of nat'l lesbian/gay rights organization meets 2nd & 4th Wed of each month at 6:30 pm. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. Info: (415) 541-5013.

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club: A demo club for women & men which focuses on Democratic pollitics as well as AIDS, breast cancer & gay freedom issues. Meets 1st Tues of each month at 7:30 pm at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Mtgs are often panel discussions of current topics of interest to the lesbian, gay & bisexual communities, interspersed with political endorsement meetings. Visitors welcome! Info: Steve Kline, 824-2671 or 255-8673.

Men Against Circumcision: Nat'l organization for support & activism. Runs Harm Documentation Project and Action Alert Network. For more info write NOHARMM, PO Box 460795, SF 94146 or call Tim 826-9351.

Berkeley Women in Black: Weekly vigil for peace in the Middle East and against the Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands. Non-hierarchical, diverse group of women who strive to build a non-patriarchal peace culture based upon the values of caring, equality and democratic empowerment. Meet Fridays from noon-1 pm at the corner of Bancroft Ave & Telegraph Ave in Berkeley, at Sather Gate. If possible, wear black. For more info write PO Box 936, Berkeley 94701 or call (510) 644-0480.

Whiptail Lizard Women's Collective: Dykes creating space for music, art, politics, meetings, hanging out & whatever else we want to create in the lesbian community. The Whiptail Lizard Lounge is an alternative, alcohol, drug and smoke-free community center in SF. All women are welcome! Open collective meetings every Sun at 7 pm at the Lounge, 4035 18th St, SF. For events & more info call 267-6979.

LAGAI (Lesbians & Gays Against Intervention in Central America), one of SF's most enduring radical queer groups. Group of lesbians & gay men working cooperatively & joyfully together to create revolution. Mtgs every other Mon night. For info call 664-9814 (eves) or write 3543 18th St, Box 26, SF 94110

Women Against Imperialism (WAI): 3543 18th St #14, SF 94110. Actions and events hotline number: 995-4735

► PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

Golden Gate Business Association (GGBA): comprised of gay & lesbian businesses, professionals, artisans & individuals throughout the Bay Area. Monthly networking events & more. For membership & event info call (415) 441-3651 or (800) 272-0278. Office Hrs: Mon-Fri 11 am-4 pm.

Brava! For Women in the Arts: multicultural organization of women artists who promote excellence among women in the arts thru professional presentation of established women artists, as well as providing services & assistance to emerging women artists. Info: 641-7657.

Federal Lesbians & Gays (FLAG) offers support, advice & activities for Federal employees. Mtg 2nd Wed of each month, 6 pm. SF location. Info: (510) 528-4427.

G/LOV: Gay/Lesbian Organization of Videomakers: Monthly meetings for people involved in all aspects of video & film production. Info: Nikos Diaman 775-6143.

Chevron Lesbian & Gay Employees Association: Call 281-0788 for meeting times & other information.

United Airlines Lesbian & Gay Employees Coalition: Group lobbies for domestic partnership benefits & encourages company participation in gay & lesbian events. For info write GLUE Coalition, 2261 Market St, #293, SF 94114-1693 or call (800) 999-3448.

Women's Business Network (WBN) provides practical support for women in business & women changing careers. Educational networking events, monthly newsletter, low-interest loans for women in business and women changing careers. Info/complimentary newsletter: WBN (510) 482-8583.

Gays & Lesbians in Planning: Social group for gay men, lesbians & bisexuals in city planning & related professions. Bimonthly potluck dinners, short programs & social events. Info: 626-5750.

BANGLE (Bay Area Network of Gay & Lesbian Educators) supports lesbian, gay & bisexual educators by providing monthly social gatherings & working for equality in education. Membership confidential. Educators, their families & friends are welcome. Info: SF—(415) 285-5078, Eastbay (510) 234-4627, Contra Costa County (510) 687-4851, Southbay (408) 298-1231, Sonoma County (707) 526-7931.

APB: African-American Designers, a collective of African-American fashion dsigners seek other designers (clothing makers, textile designers, accessory makers, etc. Support groups, resource sharing, networking. Info: 207-6850.

National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA): The gay "j's" are journalists & supporters focusing on workplace & coverage issues in the mainstream media. Info: 905-4690.

GAYLESTA (Gay & Lesbian Therapist Association) of the Bay Area. For newsletter/more info call (510) 339-8077.

Forty Plus: Nonprofit organization of managers & professionals over 40 seeking employment. Meets Mon at 8 am at 7440 Lockheed St, near Oakland International Airport. Presentations by experts in job search or career change. Call (510) 430-2400. Orientation sessions held 10 am each Wed at Forty Plus, San Jose Center, 1250 Aviation Ave, SJ. Call (408) 288-3555 for details. Free. Newcomers are welcome! Info: (510) 430-2400.

Break Out: Networking group for gay/lesbian trainers and human resource/organizational development professionals: Social & professional network. Monthly programs provide an opportunity to interact informally or hear presentations on topics of interest. To get on mailing list or for more info call Andy Black (415) 626-4071 or Grace Greenberg (510) 465-0341.

► SENIORS

Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders) offers various groups (writing, outings, discussion, etc) of interest to lesbians & gay men. For info on groups offered call 626-7000.

Senior Information Line:—see Hotlines & Referrals.

St Francis of Assisi Community invites all seniors age 60 & over to share a nutritious free lunch, Mon-Sun at noon. $1.25 suggested donation. Group also offers full, free activities program for seniors, including craft classes, day trips, bingo, exercise classes, health education & health screenings. For meal reservations or copy of activities calendar call 861-5790, 9 am-noon. 145 Guerrero St, SF.

Senior Information & Referral Service, spons by the SF Commission on the Aging, is located at 25 Van Ness Ave, Suite 750, SF. 24-hour phone line: 626-1033.

Eldercare Locator helps families & friends find information about community services for older people, anywhere in the United States and its territories. The service is funded in part by the Older Americans Act. For info call (800) 677-1116.

Lesbians Age-Related Eyesight Loss Group: Self-help group for older lesbians who are experiencing age-related eyesight loss. Group explores practical, social & emotional issues of eyesight loss & aging from a feminist perspective. Spons by the Nat'l Assoc for Visually Handicapped. Info: 221-3201.

► SOCIAL GROUPS

Girth & Mirth Club of SF meets every Sat. Chubbies meet chasers meet chubbies. For info write: 176-B Page St, SF 94102 or call 24-hr message hotline: 552-1143.

UCGALA (Univ of Calif Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc). Open to graduates and anyone else who is a friend of the University. Annual membership: $20. For info & to get on mailing list (confidentiality assured), call 267-3150. Monthly social & cultural events.

Cal Poly GALA (Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc) provides social & cultural support for lesbian, gay & bisexual students, curricula & activites; and serves the needs alumni & future alumni. Absolute confidentiality assurred. Info: (408) 245-7179.

Multicultural Bisexual Lesbian & Gay Alliance at UC Berkeley (MBLGA): See Support Groups.

Sunset Rising: Sunset District (Inner & Outer) gays, lesbians & bisexuals gather for social & volunteer activities. Join us! Info: 753-6435.

Fremont Men Social Group: Potlucks, dinners, hikes, etc; in the Fremont area. For newsletter or other info write PO Box 1238, Fremont, CA 94538 or call (510) 713-2455, (510) 596-3578.

Berkeley Flats Dykes (BFD) meets 10:30-1:30 pm on the last Sun of each month for potluck brunch. You don't have to live in the Berkeley Flats to attend, just bring something to eat or drink. Call the hotline (510) 273-2465 for location.

Tri-City Area Lesbians: (Fremont, Union City, & Newark). Meet your neighbors for informal dinners, socials, etc. Call Beth or Laurie (510) 794-8004.

Melting Pot Luck/Palo Alto meets monthly in our homes. All ages, males, females, singles & couples are welcome for neighborhood socials. Info: Bob 857-9079.

Melting Pot Luck/San Mateo County meets monthly in our homes. All ages, singles & couples, multiracial, diversity welcome. Info: Owl, 325-9266.

Coastside Social Group (Pacifica-Half Moon Bay Area) for gays, lesbians, family & friends. Info: Laura 359-0207 or Paul 726-2838.

Albany Dykes: Join your neighbors for potluck Sun brunch! Info/location: Barbara or Judy (510) 528-9026.

Oakland Lesbians living between Telegraph, Broadway, 40th & 51st Streets: Meet your lesbian neighbors for community & fun! Call (510) 655-8792 for more info & to get on the mailing list.

Island of Alameda Lesbians offers monthly potluck. Come meet your neighbors! Info: (510) 748-0127.

Solano Lambda Men's Assoc: Offers alternative events for gay men. Rap group, social activities, etc. Meets 2nd & 4th Tues of each month in Vacaville, call (707) 448-1010 for info/location.

Napa Valley Men's Network: Social organization of gay and bisexual men over 18, from Northbay counties. Group meets for potluck dinners on the 2nd Sun of each month, and for addt'l events as scheduled. For newsletter, write PO Box 4307, Napa 94558.

Jewish Lesbian & Bi Women of the Southbay: Group meets bimonthly for social activities: potluck brunches, game nights, hikes, movies. Come schmooze, nosh & meet other Southbay Jewish women! Info: Joyce 965-8416.

Peninsula Bi Guys Group: See Bisexual.

Women Over 50 Social Group meets every 3rd Sun from 3-5 pm, in Los Gatos. Other events arranged. Info: (408) 354-4397 or (415) 558-8366.

Forties, an informal social club for gaymen in Santa Cruz County. Group holds a potluck on the 2nd Fri of every month. For info/location call Ramon (408) 423-1155.

Generation X: Animated social/discussion group for gay men in their 20s. Meets biweekly to explore issues of gay angst & recreation. Topics include internalized homophobia, relationships & careers. Also potlucks, outdoor adventures. Info: Raman 771-4291 or Albert 252-9097.

Asian Lesbian Potluck Brunch Group, see People of Color.

Bridging the Gap Alliance: Social/political group of deaf, hard of hearing and hearing lesbians. Meets monthly (mtgs in ASL). New signers are welcome! Info: write BGA, PO Box 5669, Berkeley, CA 94705.

East Bay Network: Club for gay community socializing. Anytime, on-line 24 hrs. Computer & modem required. Call (510) 827-0470. Modem (510) 827-3894.

New Horizons: Social/support/volunteer group for young adults in their twenties. Meet Thurs in San Anselmo, Marin at the YWCA, 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. New members drop-in at 7:45 pm, gen'l mtgs 8-9:30 pm. Info: 457-3523.

Eastbay Dykes Separatist Social Group meets for fun, discussion, and to expand our Separatist support network.

GLAAD Tidings

COME CELEBRATE

Holiday Pot Luck

Lesbian Visibility Task Force

Sunday, Dec. 19, 6 PM

Leave a message for Trish at GLAAD for location/info:

(415) 861-4588

GLAAD Tidings

RUBY'S CLAY STUDIO

ANNUAL HOLIDAY GIFT SHOW & SALE

NOVEMBER 26 - DECEMBER 24
TUES - FRI 4-7 PM
SAT - SUN 11AM - 5 PM
ALSO BY APPOINTMENT

RECEPTION
7-9 PM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

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TELEPHONE 861-9779

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AIDS/HIV NIGHTLINE

668-AIDS

Assume no s/m, drugs, alcohol, smoking or perfume. Info/location: (510) 482-0635 or (510) 655-8792.

The Irish Lesbian & Gay Organization meets monthly. Info/location: 929-8877.

Negatives Being Positive: Social group of HIV negative gay men, spons by the AIDS Health Project. See Main Calendar listings for upcoming events or call the Event Line 476-6448 and press option 4 at the recorded message.

Coastside Social Group (Pacifica-Half Moon Bay Area) for gays, lesbians, family & friends. Info: Laura 359-0207 or Paul 726-2838.

The Guys: A social alternative for athletic, active gay guys. Sun brunches, Tahoe, hiking, beaches, biking, pool, bowling, etc. Info:(510) 531-5836.

Couples Club of SF Bay Area: Group supports positive aspects of gay & lesbian relationships by providing social & educational activities for same-sex couples. Info: Mark & Mike 242-0319 or Robin & Ro 731-8960.

Queer Deadheads gather for social events. For info/newsletter: Dave 285-6286.

Brainy, Artsy Gals: Social group for women into good food & conversation about the arts. Meets 1st Fri of each month, SF & Eastbay locations. Info: (510) 658-9389.

Der Deutsche Freundschaftskreis, a German-speaking potluck social group meets on the 3rd Fri of each month. All levels welcome. Info: Don 329-1438.

Avis Au Public: San Franciscains emmenez votre etendard. Parlons Francais ensemble. Potluck chaque 1er vendredi du mois. Info: 771-2954.

Utne-Style Salon: Engage in substantial discussion of politics, art, spirituality, activism, humor, gaia, etc. Snobbery—no; real talk—yes. Women & people of color are especially encouraged. Meets twice a month. Info: Sheila 695-2968 or Mitchell 861-5673.

SF Lesbian Teatime Group: Social group for SF lesbians meets monthly at teatime in the City for socializing, fun. For info/location call Dionne, 922-2137.

Dykes & Their Dogs/Eastbay: Group for dykes & our dogs meets 2nd & 4th Sundays. Call Roz (510) 581-7212 for info.

SF Lesbians & Their Dogs: Share dogwalks, dogsitting, and other canine-related activities. Info: 563-9074.

SF Francis Club: A gay male/lesbian club offering social activities as an alternative to the bars. Events include drop-ins at member's homes, theater parties, recreational activites & annual galas. Info: 905-9646.

► SPIRITUALITY

Shabbat Services with Sha'ar Zahav, Jewish lesbian/gay congregation. Every Fri at 8:15 pm & 2nd Saturday of each month, 10:30 am. 220 Danvers (upper Market), SF. 861-6932.

Jewish Lesbians, bisexual women & women friends meet to celebrate Shabbat, 1st Fri of each month, alternating btwn SF & EB locations. Join us for letting go of the week & your work, bringing in Shabbat with song, food, schmoozing & Jewish culture. Bring a substantial vegetarian potluck dish to share. Please wear no scents. Info: (510) 654-8104.

Nishmat Shalom: An Eastbay feminist minyan. Semi-traditional havura, first Sat of each month at 10 am. Services followed by vegetarian potluck. Women, men, gay, straight, bi welcome. Call (510) 559-9759 for details.

Hartford Zen Center: A Zen Buddhist temple in the heart of the Castro lesbian, gay, bi community. Zazen meditation schedule: morning & evening, Mon-Fri. Meditation & lecture Sat morning. Come learn Zen meditation, benefit yourself & others. Abbott Zenshin Philip Whalen. Info: 863-2507.

Dharma Sisters: Group for lesbian & bi women practicing or interested in any form of Buddhism. Weekly women's sitting, monthly meetings, special events, mutual support. All women are welcome! Info: 826-7990.

Sadhana Brothers: Open to gay men pursuing a Hindu/yoga/metaphysical path. Info: Ed 647-4388.

Gay Buddhist Fraternity: For gay men who practice any form of the Buddhadharma, or who are interested in practicing. Meet 2nd & 4th Sun of each month in a beautiful SF meeting place for meditation, discussion & interaction. Additional group events & retreats held occasionally. Beginners welcome! For info call 974-9878, please leave your phone number.

Vajrayana Buddhist Support Group for gay/bisexual men meets in SF. Practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism are welcome to join a supportive circle of male friends. Info: 974-9878.

Tayu Center: a Fourth Way spiritual school directed by Robert Daniel Ennis, a modern gay spiritual adept. Study groups meet 2nd Fri of each month at 7:30 pm in the Eastbay (776 Colusa Ave, El Cerrito), 3rd Tues at 8 pm in Marin (786 Marin Dr, Mill Valley) and last Tues at 8 pm in Sebastopol (898 Daniel St). Includes co-meditation (2-person), reading & discussion of Fourth Way material. Info: (707) 829-9579.

"The Dykemare Before Christmas"—Female Trouble is back for one night only. Performers include Santa Elvis Herselvis, Alcohol of Fame and (pictured) Stone Fox. Check Dec. 23 for details. Photo by Jeanie M.

Sunday's Women gather to explore the Goddess Movement, network with other spiritual women. Guest speakers. 3rd Sun of each month, Montclair Women's Club, 1650 Mountain Blvd, Oakl. $7-10 donation. Spons by Women's Spirituality Forum. Call the Goddess Hotline, (510) 444-7724, for info on current & upcoming events.

Women's Circle Network: If you are in a women's circle & would like to connect with a community of women's circles contact Emerald at 2124 Kittredge #11, Berkeley 94704. Call (510) 652-6355.

Witches Support Group meets to address issues. Women only. Jewish witches especially welcome. Info: 985-7473 leave message for Janette.

Women's Spirituality Circle: Eastbay. Tues 7:30 pm. Free. Info: (510) 444-3337 or (415) 648-7592.

Imaging the Goddess as a personal, political & fun action. Make a unique politicl statement, explore your creativity & connections to strong images of wimmin. Free wkshops offered throughout Spring, all wimmin welcome, art-phobics especially encouraged. Eastbay & SF locations, call (510) 655-2179 for info.

J Krishnamurti Dialogues & Video Screenings offered in SF and the Eastbay. Dialogues are held every Mon in SF. Call (415) 469-0606 for time, location & other info.

Gay/Lesbian/Bi Spiritual Support Group in the Southbay: Focus on personal growth, self-awareness/help, books, enneagram Higher Self, transcendence, meditation, etc. Info: Bradford (408) 446-9067.

Unitarian Universalist Church: Sun services at 11 am. Potluck every 2nd Sun. Congregation working toward becoming an intentionally welcoming community to lesbians, gays & bisexuals. 1187 Franklin St at Geary, SF.

Walnut Creek Interweave, a chapter of Unitarian Universalists addressing concerns of gays, lesbians, TV, Bi, TS & straight allies meet last Sun of each month at Mt Diablo Unitarian UniVersalist church, noon-1 pm after the 10:30 am service. Info: Alison (510) 228-0323.

St Marks Lutheran Church Communion: Sun, 9 & 11 am, 1111 O'Farrell at Gough, SF. Info: 928-7770.

Gay Men's Radical Faery Circle comes together every Thurs night at 8 pm. Bring instruments & energy! Info/location: 626-3369.

St Paul's Lutheran Church: worship & Eucharist, Sun, 10 am. 1658 Excelsior Ave, Oakl (just off I-580). Info: 530-6333.

Dolores Street Baptist Church: Small, inclusive & caring congregation of folks from many backgrounds & religious traditions. Sunday: 9:30 am Biblical Discernment on Today's Issues; 11 am worship. 208 Dolores St, SF. Call 861-1434 for more info or church vision statement. Everyone welcome!

Acceptance: Baptist Bible Study & support group meets Wednesdays, 7:30 pm. Location varies. Everyone is welcome. For info: 843-9705, 626-5034.

American Baptists Concerned: a supportive community of gay/lesbian Baptists & friends. Meets at 5 pm the first Sun of each month for fellowship and a potluck. Everyone is welcome! Also publishes quarterly newsletter, *Voice of the Turtle*. To join mailing list send $10 to ABC, 872 Erie St, Oakl 94610. For mtg & group info: (510) 465-8652.

Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church (American Baptist) is an inclusive church welcoming & affirming gay men & lesbians. Worship 10 am Sun at 3534 Lakeshore Ave & Mandana, Oakland. Gay/lesbian group, American Baptists Concerned, meets the first Sun of each month. For more info call (510) 893-2484.

First Baptist Church, Berkeley welcomes and affirms lesbian, gay & bisexual people in all lay & professional ministries. Small, friendly, energetic congregation. Worship services Sun at 10 am in the chapel at the corner of Dana & Durant, Berkeley. Rev Esther Hargis, pastor. Info: (510) 848-5838.

Bethany United Methodist Church: Caring & inclusive congregation, every person is welcome. Church reaches out to the lesbian & gay community. Sun worship at 11 am. 1268 Sanchez St at Clipper, SF. Info: 647-8393.

Montclair Presbyterian Church welcomes gay & lesbian people to worship & join in the church's many social justice & support programs. Worship service uses inclusive language. 10 am worship, 10 am church school & nursery for children. 5101 Thornhill Drive, Oakl. Info: Rev Chuck McClain or Rev Cindy Crowner, (510) 339-1131.

Seventh Ave Presbyterian Church: Inclusive community; gay, lesbian & straight, all ages. Come join, you're welcome! Sun worship at 10:30 am. 1329 7th Ave, SF. Info: 664-2543.

St John's Presbyterian Church: An inclusive "More Light" congregation in south Berkeley, nr the University campus, welcomes & affirms gay men & lesbians. Services 10 am Sun at 2727 College Ave, Berkeley. Info: (510) 845-6830.

Alameda First Congregational Church holds that all people are equally loved & accepted. You are welcome to Sun services at 10:30 am, 1912 Central Ave, Alameda. Info: (510) 522-6012.

First Congregational Church of Christ: Post & Mason Sts, SF. A Church "open & affirming" of all people, with active lesbian & gay members involved in all levels of church life & worship. Info: 392-7461.

St John's United Church of Christ, Laguna Honda at Woodside. An open & affirming church, welcoming people of all ages, races, shapes, sizes and abilities. Worship at 10 am with people who are single, married, divorced, widowed, gay & lesbian. Diversity is encouraged & celebrated. People who love to sing are especially welcome! Info: 731-9333.

First Congregational Church/United Church of Christ: An "open & affirming" church that began ordaining gays & lesbians in 1972. Worship services 5:30 pm Sat ? 9 & 11 am Sun. Free validated parking at Sutter/Stockton garage. Post & Mason Sts, SF. Info: 392-7461.

Church of the Advent of Christ the King (Episcopal): Sunday Services: 9 am low mass, 11 am solemn mass. Evening prayer 6 pm daily. 261 Fell St, SF. Info: 431-0454.

Christian Women's Support Group meets 4th Sat of each month. Inclusive language eucharist, potluck, fellowship. Info: Kris Wagner 534-5546, Bonita Palmer 647-8390.

Dignity/SF: Faith community of lesbian, gay & bisexual Catholics, their friends & families. Celebration of the eucharist with inclusive language & song every Sun at 5:30 pm at 7the Ave Presbyterian Church, 1329 7th Ave, SF. For info & a newcomer packet leave message at 681-2491.

Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of SF: Sun worship services: 9 am, 11 am & 7 pm. AIDS ministry (see AIDS Resources), women's & men's groups, children's programming & educational series. Rev Jim Mitulski, pastor. 150 Eureka St, SF. Info: 863-4434.

Golden Gate MCC Sun worship services: 12:45 & 7 pm; 11 am bible study. 1600 Clay St, SF. Rev Buddy Trulock, pastor. Lesbian & gay Christians welcome all to enjoy nourishing worship & fellowship of Jesus Christ.

New Life MCC Sun worship service: 1823 9th St at Hearst, Berkeley. Sun worship 12:30 pm; potluck every 3rd Sun. Song & prayer service 1st Thurs, 7:30 pm. Call for info on bible study–support group. Info: Rev Barry Wichmann and Rev Leslie Addison (510) 843-9355.

MCC of San Lorenzo meets at Christ Lutheran Church, 100 Hacienda St at Hathaway, San Lorenzo. Services Sun at 6 pm. Interim pastor: Rev Michael England. Info: (510) 481-9720.

Diablo Valley MCC Sun worship service, 10 am, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. Wed worship, 7 pm, followed by lay ministry courses at 8:15 pm. Info: (510) 827-2960.

New Hope! MCC of Santa Rosa meets 11:30 am at 3632 Airway Dr, Santa Rosa. All lifestyles welcome! Pastor Bob Cunningham. Info: (707) 526-HOPE.

Russian River MCC Sun worship service: Noon, 14520 Armstrong Woods Rd, Guerneville. Info: Rev Betty Pederson (707) 869-0552.

Evangelicals Concerned-SF Bay Area: Local chapters in SF, Eastbay, San Jose, of national pro-lesbian/gay Christian organization. Weekly discussion/Bible study groups, social activities & retreats. Be affirmed of both your sexuality & spirituality. Call Andrea or Jeff at (415) 621-ECWR (3297) for details.

Agape Full Gospel Fellowship: Ministry for all communities. Promotes spiritual, mental, physical & social wholeness thru Jesus Christ. Sunday worship service at 1 pm at 50 Belcher, SF. Thurs bible study at 7 pm, call for location. Info: Pastor Mike Arbuckle 861-2934.

Freedom in Christ Evangelical Church: Group of born-again Christian gays & lesbians reaching out with a message of Christ's resotring love to all people. Worship service Sun at 11 am at Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission St, SF. Bible study Tues at 7:30 pm at Dolores Street Baptist Church, 208 Dolores St, SF. Info: Call 563-2973, or write Box 14462, SF 94114.

St Michael's Ecumenical Catholic Church: Pro-gay, independent denomination. Sun services at 10 am, 21956 Russian River Ave, Villa Grande. Info: Bishop Mark Shirilau (707) 865-0119.

Icon Orthodox Fellowship: Support group by & for gay & lesbian Orthodox Christians. HIV-positive people are especially welcome. Info/brochure: 673-6729, 11 am-7 pm.

Saint Raphael's Liberal Catholic Church: An apostolic church based on theosophical ideals & freedom of thought. Homage to Our Lady held every Sun at 9:45 am, mass at 10 am. Services held at 220 Danvers St at Caselli, SF. Open communion. Everyone welcome. Info: Rev Martin Nowinski 550-1576.

GLAD (Gay, Lesbian & Affirming Disciples/Christian Church) meet the 3rd Sun of each month at University Christian Church, 2401 Le Conte Ave, Berkeley. 4-7 pm. Potluck. Info: (510) 644-1823.

Affirmation: Gay & Lesbian Mormons meet every Sun at 5:30 pm at the Pension Hotel, 1668 Market St between Van Ness Ave & Market Sts, SF. Come meet queer Mormons in a social support group not affiliated with the LDS church. Info: (415) 641-4554 or (510) 658-1839.

Gay Clergy Support: Group for Professed Religious who wish to social & exchange with other gay religious & clergy who believe in their unique calling as gays in the Church. Info: 584-1034.

► SPORTS

Berkeley & Eastbay Athletes interested in becoming involved with the group coordinating the Eastbay's effort for the 1994 Gay Games in New York: Contact Chris (510) 649-1408 for details.

SF Frontrunners Social running & walking club for lesbians, gays & bisexuals, & their friends. All levels welcome. Regular wkly runs: Sat 9 am, Stow Lake Boathouse, Golden Gate Park; 1 mi. walk or 1-5 mi. runs, no-host brunch follows; Tues 6:30 pm, Ferry Bldg (under clock tower), up to 5 mi. flat run along Embarcadero; Sun 9 am, Dolores Park. Info: Jim Durkin 863-0954.

Eastbay Frontrunners Club sponsors noncompetitive runs in various Eastbay locations. Runs begin at 9:30 am, and are followed by brunch. Info: Greg (510) 482-4391, Roz (510) 939-3579 or Bill (510) 528-0339.

Baylands Frontrunners: Social and running/walking club sponsors noncompetitive runs in various Southbay & Peninsula locations. Men & women welcome. Group meets every Sat at 9 am at the Baylands Athletic Center in Palo Alto. For more info call (408) 984-4076.

SF Hiking Club: join us for day trips, backpacking & social activities. See calendar listing for this month's schedule. For more info write: SF Hiking Club, PO Box 14065, SF 94114 or call 826-3489 eves.

Different Spokes/SF: Bicycling group for Bay Area gays & lesbians interested in non-competitive cycling, both on road bikes & mountain bikes. Several trips each month, plus regular "Decide & Ride" each Sun at 10 am, leaving from McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, SF. For schedule/newsletter call 282-1647 or write PO Box 14711, SF CA 94114.

Marin Hike & Bike Club for Gay & Bi Men: Enjoy the company of other athletic guys while hiking, biking, camping, etc; or for informal social gatherings. No membership fees. Info: 927-3827.

Gay/Lesbian Sierrans: escape the madness of the city, explore & appreciate the beautiful outdoors. GLS presents 1-3 hikes each week; plus monthly program on 3rd Tues of each month, 7:30 pm, Nat'l Sierra Club, Polk St at Ellis, SF. For SIGN, call TDD (510) 653-6127. For info & free sample newsletter, call 281-5666 (24-hrs).

Gay/Lesbian Sierrans Loma Prieta (Southbay) Chapter: 2448 Watson Court, Palo Alto, 94303. Call voicemail (408) 236-2170 for info.

Wilderness Women explore the great outdoors. Hikes, nature study, camping, ski trips & more. All adventures shared with friendly women. $5/yr. Calendar/newsletter. Write 5329 Manila Ave, Oakl, 94618. Info: (510) 658-2196.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club holds Olympic Freestyle Wrestling practices twice weekly. All weights, skill levels & ages welcome. Large facility, accessible to public transit. Practices: Thurs at 7 pm, Sun at 12:30 pm. Info: Gene 821-2991.

SF Wrestling Club: all forms & wrestling styles; all ages, weights & experience levels welcome. Call (510) 538-8490 or (415) 821-9721 for details.

Motorcycle Club for Black gay women. For info write: 1081 Alameda #117, Belmont, CA 94002.

Pegasus Motorcyle Club for gay, Bay Area men: Explore Calif backroads & points of interest. Monthly 1 or 2-day runs. For info/details call Jay/SF, (415) 861-2872, Ed/Eastbay (510) 238-9406 or Allen/Southbay (408) 774-9967.

Dyke Diver offers a newsletter for dykes who scuba dive. Send SASE to Dyke Diver, PO Box 460096, SF CA 94146 for info/details.

Northern Calif Rainbow Divers: Lesbian & Gay Scuba Club for the active diver in Northern Calif. Meets 2nd Tues of every month at 7:30 pm at the Sierra Club, 730 Polk St, SF. Info: Greg Abrams 821-2877.

SF Tsunami Gay & Lesbian Masters Swim team invites swimmers of all ages, races, gender & abilities to enjoy both competitive and non-competitive swimming. Group participates in meets, lake swims, int'l gay aquatic events & numerous social events throughout the year. Coached workouts wkends & wknights. Info/locations: 431-1933.

Barbary Coast Boating Club: Gay yacht club serving Northern Calif. Meets every month at the Berkeley Yacht Club, 7-9 pm. All interested visitors are welcome! For meeting dates & other info: 905-6267.

SF Track & Field Club: Open to men & women, all ages. Wkly training sessions at Kezar Stadium in SF; compete in varous meets during spring & summer; prepare for upcoming Gay Games IV. For additional info/workout schedule call Rick 550-7966.

Women's Soccer Team: Has members on both sides of the Bay, more members are welcome! Lesbians & friends encouraged to join. Call SF: (415) 641-8771 or EB: (510) 547-3675.

Women's Soccer Team welcomes experienced players, especially goalies. Info: (510) 523-5373 or (415) 647-3205.

Men's Soccer Team, SF Spikes, practices Tues 5:30-dark at Beach Chalet. Games on Saturdays. For details call Carlo 821-4248.

Rugby: Bay Area women's rugby team welcomes new members. Info: 621-3871 or 854-3819.

Women's Field Hockey League: Only women's field hockey group in the Bay Area. Sunday games. Call 431-2720.

SF Women's FLAG Football League: Games at Golden Gate Park Polo Field, Sun 9:30 am-3 pm. Info: 584-6496.

Stonewall Climbers: Gay & lesbian rockclimbing group. To join us on one of our trips, call 695-9056 or 863-2789.

SF Women's Judo Club: Open to all women 12 yrs of age & older. Come & observe classes. Schedule: Tues & Thurs 6-8 pm, Sat 11 am-1 pm. 1622 Castro & 26th St, SF. Info: 821-0303 BEFORE 10 pm.

Ronin Dojo Karate School for Women offers instruction in Kenpo Karate, with emphasis on self-defense by experienced black belt women. Beginners welcome. Info: 731-7560.

Aikido Arts Center: For women, men, kids. Special beginners classes. Mornings & evenings. Info: 861-6044.

Hand to Hand Martial Arts: Nonprofit provides dynamic, woman-centered martial arts & self defense training in the Eastbay. Head instructor: Coleen Gragen, 4th degree black belt. Info: (510) 428-0502.

PAWMA (Pacific Assoc of Women Martial Artists) promotes martial arts training for women in an atmosphere of mutual respect & trust. Provides info on schools, classes, seminars, workshops, performances & more. Call 664-7034 or write PAWMA, PO Box 12861, Berkeley 94701-12861 for info.

Wing Tao Mobility Arts: Ongoing classes in Kung Fu for women, children & men. Info: (510) 652-5280.

Eastbay Lesbian Bowlers: All skill levels welcome. Call (510) 653-4135 for info.

BICEPS (Bodybuilders Into Competition, Education & Physique). Steroid-free bodybuilding for men & women. All levels & ages welcome. For upcoming events info call 267-1864 or write PO Box 410053 SF 94141.

ABS (Arcadia Bodybuilding Society): Int'l bodybuilding organization, organizers of the annual SF gay/lesbian Physique Show. All levels welcome. Info: 978-9495.

Lesbian & Gay Ultimate Frisbee Team: Meets Sat 11 am-1 pm in Golden Gate Park, SF. If you can play weekly & want a good workout, you're welcome! Call Claire 285-0936 for more info. All skill levels are welcome.

Rollerblade Club for beginners on the Peninsula. Call Elena 592-7183.

East Bay Gay/Bi Sports Players social group: Competitive, but for fun only. No regular attendance or commitment required. Choice of softball, volleyball, tennis, basketball, football or other sports. All levels welcome. Suggestions welcome. Info: 769-7583.

AbunDANCE Aerobic Dance Class for Large Women: All women size 16 and up are welcome to come boogie! Mon & Wed, 6-7 pm; Sat 11 am-noon; at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. SL donation negotiable. Info: 337-6379.

Fremont Gay Men's Bowling League: Sign-up for this friendly men's league. All skill levels, from beginner to advanced, are encouraged to participate. Call Mark (510) 797-6997 for group mtg times & other info.

► SUPPORT GROUPS

Overcoming Violent Behavior Anonymous: SF group, see Incest & Battery.

Support Group for Gay & Bisexual Men & Transgenders who are being emotionally, physically and/or sexually abused by male partners—see Incest & Battery.

Women's Cancer Support Groups: spons by Women's Cancer Resource Ctr, see Health.

Lesbian Adoptees: See Hotlines & Referrals.

Adoptees, Birth Parents & Adoptive Parents support groups meet throughout the Bay Area. For info/locations: Post Adoption Center for Education & Research (PACER) 935-6622.

Drop-in Gay Men's Rap at Pacific Center, Berkeley: Join other gay men of all ages for a wkly support group, Tues 8-9:50 pm. Info: (510) 548-8283.

Monday Gay Men's Group at Pacific Cetner, Berkeley: Join 50-100 gay men at this weekly drop-in group offering multiple-topic discussion & social time. Mon 7:45-9:50 pm. Info: (510) 548-8283.

Drop-in Lesbian Rap at Pacific Center, Berkeley: Tues eves, 8-9:50 pm. Call (510) 548-8283 for info.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group: discussion group for all lesbians. Meet Thurs 7:30 pm at the Palo Alto YWCA, 4161 Alma (just north of San Antonio), Palo Alto. Different topics each week, see Main Calendar for details. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

Walnut Creek Lesbian Discussion Group meets Mon at 7 pm at Pacific

XMas Crucifixion Rock Party with the Hail Marys. Dec. 23 has info. Photo by Phyllis Christopher.

Center, 1250 Pine St, #301, Walnut Creek. Info: (510) 939-7711.
Walnut Creek Gay Support Group meets Tues at 7 pm at Pacific Ctr, 1250 Pine St #301, Walnut Creek. Info: 939-7711.
Graves' Disease (hyperthyroid) Support Groups in SF & the East Bay: Call Susan (510) 540-8640 for info.
Lesbians w/mild MS: Informal support group meets monthly. For info & location, call Blue (510) 658-2477 or Ilene (415) 221-2361.
Headache Support Group meets twice a month in SF. For info call Judy 459-5839.
Hidden Disabilities/Chronic Pain Support Group for Women. Free. Leaderless. Eastbay location. Info: Dana (510) 658-0826.
Support Group for Women who want to leave the sex industry meets Tues 4-5:30 pm. Drop-in center open Tues noon-4 pm. 942 Market St #307. Spons by Women Emerging. Info: 982-3365.
Women's Coming Out Group: open to women of all ages, drop-in. Choose topics, make friends. 6 pm Wed at Pacific Ctr (newcomers come at 5:45 pm to meet facilitator). 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.
Coming Out Support Group at Billy DeFrank Community Center, 175 Stockton Ave, San Jose. Focus on issues of people who are just coming out. Meets 3rd Sat of every month, 1-3 pm. Info: (408) 293-2429.
Tri-Valley Gays/Lesbians: Support group for all gay people in the Tri-Valley area meets in Pleasanton, Mon at 5 pm at The Center, 4725 First St, Plesanton. Info: Claudia Hartley (510) 846-2085.
Slightly Older Lesbian Support Group for lesbians over 30. Rap group meets 7:30 pm Thurs at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Long-running group. Info: 841-6224 or 548-8283 (leave message for SOL).
Personal Support Group for Midlife Lesbians, spons by Options for Women Over 40. Facilitated by Lee Bowman, LCSW. Focus on personal issues: midlife transition, sex, relationships, health, aging, change. 8-wk groups. Wed 6:30-8 pm, low fee. Info: Options 431-6405.
Support Group for Battered Lesbians, spons by WOMAN, Inc—see Incest & Battery.
Lesbian MidLife Support Group meets once a month on Sun night, free. Discuss menopause, self-image, health issues, older workers, body image, new lifestyles & financial planning. Info/location: 252-9073.
50s Support Group: Leaderless Eastbay group for feminist lesbians in their 50's (late 40's OK) to share stimulating talk, idea sharing, interesting activities, mutual support. Info: (510) 530-0202.
Married/Formerly Married Gay/Bi Men: Wkly support & social group at Pacific Center, Berkeley. Wed 8-9:50 pm. Info: (510) 548-8283.
Married & Divorced Men's Group meets Thurs eves in Palo Alto for social/support. Heterosexual, bisexual & gay men are welcome. Info: PO Box 1153, Palo Alto, 94301.
Men's Support Group for straight men whose wives/lovers are coming out. Marin location. Free. Call Jon Seirup, PhD 898-1468 for info.
Spouses of Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Persons Support Group meets 4th Tues of each month at St John's Presbyterian Church, College Ave at Garber, Berkeley. 7:30 pm. Info: Amity Buxton (510) 525-0200.
Gay Couples Ongoing wkly support group. Explores issues/problems of gay men in committed relationships (new & old). Free. Mtgs in SF. Info: Howard 567-9504.
Foreskin Restoration Group for men wanting to overcome the mutilation of circumcision & restore our birthright. Technical & moral support mtgs 1st Sun of each month, 1-3 pm at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Spons by RECAP. Info: (510) 827-4077.
Men Against Circumcision: NAtional direct action network. Group runs a Harm Documentation Project, does Action Alerts, etc. Info: NOHARMM, POB 460795, SF 94146 or call Tim 826-9351.
Eastbay PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) meet 4th Tues of each month, and welcomes gay, lesbians & bisexual persons for safe, confidential sharing & support on family issues. Info: Betty (510) 547-4657 or Peggy (510) 524-8911.
SF PFLAG: Monthly support group for parents & family of lesbians & gays meets at St Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St at Market, SF, every 2nd Sun of the month. Gay & lesbian community members are also welcome. Info: 921-8850.
Peninsula FLAG: Monthly support group for parents & friends of lesbians and gays meets 7:30 pm, 2nd Wed of each month at First Congregational Church, 1980 Hamilton Ave, San Jose and 3rd Thurs of each month at St Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. Group welcomes gay, lesbian & bisexual persons for safe, confidential sharing & support on family issues. Info: (408) 270-8182 or (415) 857-1058.
Woman-to-Woman SM: Outcasts is an educational, support & social group for women interested in s/m between women, including lesbian, bisexual & transsexual women. Info: Write PO Box 31266, SF 94131-0266.
The Deaf Gay & Lesbian Center provides support groups for deaf and hard-of-hearing queers. For info call 885-2341 TDD or use California Relay 1-800-735-2922. Several different groups offered.
MBLGA (Multicultural Bisexual Lesbian & Gay Alliance) at UC Berkeley spons support groups, socials and other events for members of the UC Berkeley and UCSF communities. Info: (510) 642-6942.
Former Jehovah's Witnesses: Support/social group for women who were former Jehovah's Witnesses. Info: 703-7147.
For More Listings in the support group category, see *SF Bay Times'* classifieds in the "Open Exchange" therapy/support group section, under **"relationship therapy"**, **"recovery addiction"**, and **"incest/battery therapy."**

► THERAPY GROUPS

Women's Institute for Mental Health: low-fee individual, couples & grou therapy. SL starts at $15. Groups for women abused as children. Info: 864-2364. 333 Valencia St, SF, Ste 222.
Disabled Lesbian Group for women with physical disabilities, hidden disabilities, chronic illness & chronic pain. Wed & Thurs at Operation Concern. WA, SL. Info: 626-7000 voice/tty.
Gay Men's Disabled Group: are you a gay man with a physical/hidden disability? Isolated & in need of support/therapy? Call 626-7000 v/tty. Group held at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF.
McAuley Neuropsychiatric Institute at St Mary's Hospital & Med Ctr in SF offers a number of psychotherapy groups (eating disorders, incest survivors, single parents, women, etc) for individuals & couples. Wkly mtgs, SL fee. For info or to register: Helga Justman, LCSW 750-5603.
Berkeley Free Clinic peer counseling collective provides counseling for individuals & couples, also provides mediations. Info: (510) 548-2570.
Men—Have You Abused Your Lover? Feeling ashamed, afraid or angry about having been violent with the man you love most? MOVE offers help for gay & bisexual men who batter. See Incest & Battery section for details.
Lesbian Counseling Group offered by Family Service Agency of San Mateo: Focus on helping lesbians explore life issues in a safe, supportive setting. Meets Mon 6-7:30 pm at the agency offices, 1870 El Camino Real, Burlingame. Info/reg: 692-0555.
12-Wk Process Groups for Gay Men. Explore issues of intimacy, trust & communication. Spons by Operation Concern. Call Jill 626-7000.
Intuitive Hypnotherapy for Women: Free group offers help in assessing the unconscious for intuition, psychic development, inner guidance, health & empowerment issues. 7:30 pm Mondays, North Berkeley location. Info: (510) 527-3844.
Jewish Family Service of Santa Clara County offers "Kavod" ("respect" in Hebrew), a counseling & education program that is sensitive to the needs of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals & our families, with special outreach to Jewish clients. Support groups are also available on coming out, parents of gays & lesbians and Jewish identity. Fee subsidies available. For info/reg call Karen Belford, MSW, Kavod Project Director: (408) 399-2202.
Gay Men's Coming Out drop-in group spons by Operation Concern meets Tues 5:15-6:15 pm, 1853 Market St, SF. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman. Info: 626-7000.
For Additional Listings in the **Therapy** category see *Bay Times'* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under the **"counseling"**, **"relationship"**, **"recovery addiction"** and **"incest/battery"** therapy headings.

► TRANSGENDER GROUPS

Transvestites & Transsexuals rap group (women & men): 1st and 3rd Wed and last Fri monthly, 8 pm, Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.
TV/TS & Friends Transgender Group meets 8 pm, last Thurs of each month. SF location. Info: (510) 549-2665 or write ETVC, PO Box 426486, SF CA 94142. We're very active & friendly folks, call us!
Female-to-Male Crossdressers & Transsexuals Only Group. Newsletter & quarterly get-togethers. Info: FTM, 5337 College Ave #142, Oakl, CA 94618
SF Gender Information: provides referrals & networking for transsexuals & other gender community members—see Hotlines & Referrals.
Can We Talk? Transgender Support Group at the Tenderloin AIDS Center. See AIDS Resources for details.
Transsexual Support Group: Group for anyone who is transsexual or has gender issues. Beginners welcome. Group meets every Fri except last Fri of the month at Pacific Center, Berkeley. Info: (510) 841-6224.
Transgender Nation: See Political.

► WRITING

Novel Writing Group for women who are in the process of writing a novel. Meets in SF twice per month. Info/location: Eliza 759-5898.
Bay Area Native Women Writers Circle for American Indian, Native Alaskan/Hawaiian, Canadian First Nations, and other international indigenuous women writers who want to meet other Native women writers & share words and support, resources & knowledge about writing & publishing. Group is one of many regional writers circles forming, inspired by the "Returning the Gift" Festival of Native Writers. For more info, write Victoria Lena Manyarrows, 2440 16th St #146, SF 94103 or call 864-3538.
Jewish Lesbian Writers Group welcomes Jewish women of all ages, all levels of serious writers. Poor or working class, Sephardic, Mizrachi & Jewish women of color are especially welcome. Mtgs in the Eastbay, every other Mon nights. Occasional public readings & writing retreats. Childcare costs paid. Chem-free space, group strives for accessibility. Please do not wear scented products. Please do write & talk about writing. Info/location: (510) 540-5564 or (510) 465-1294.
Novelists' Wkshop & Support Group: Meets Mon nights in SF. Women & men together. Submit 10 pages for review. Free. Info: Rita 824-9083 or Adrian 626-3129.
Lesbian Womanist/Feminist Writer's Group welcomes committed writers of all genres, and racial & cultural diversity. Weekly mtgs in the Eastbay. Call JB (510) 601-0966.
Lesbian Playwrights Group meets Sunday afternoons. For details call (415) 282-4510 (SF) or (510) 436-3324 (Eastbay).
Self-Empowerment Environment (SEE) Group meets weekly, new members are welcome. Group writes, reads & publishes stories of our growth. Different "concepts" explored each week. Info: Sountru 826-9001.

► YOUTH

LYRIC (Lavender Youth Recreation & Information Center) offers social, recreational & support activities for lesbian, gay & bisexual youth, 23 and under. For info about activities or to talk to young people call 863-3636 (SF) or 1-(800)-246-PRIDE (outside SF). LYRIC's business number is 703-6150.
Pride & Prejudice: Education/social group spons by LYRIC & LYFE. A welcoming group for the queer youth community, offers education & social events to introduce youth to pertinent community issues, meet friends, learn more about queer life, and have fun! Tuesdays, 6-8 pm at 1748 Market St, Ste 201, SF. Info: Elisabeth 565-7681.
BAY (Bay Area Youth) Positives Group for young people with HIV. See AIDS Resources for details.
California Runaway Hotline provides services to young people who need help, want someone to talk to, or want to send a message to their parents. See Hotlines & Referrals.
Rainbow's End: Lesbian/Gay Youth Group. Open to ages 14-23. Thurs eves, drop-in 6:30 pm, group 7-8:30 pm. 1000 Sir Francis Drake, room 12, San Anselmo, Marin. Info: 457-3523.
Sexual Identity Forum for Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Youth—and youth exploring sexual identity. Open to ages 21 & under. Meet every Wed night, 7:30-9 pm at the Community Living Room, 28 W. 37th Ave, San Mateo. Drop by & make new friends! Info: 572-0535.
BASMYN (Bay Area Sexual Minority Youth Network) offers a variety of services for bisexal, lesbian, gay, transgender & questioning youth. A "by & for youth" organization. Discretion assured if requested. All letters answered. Free. Write: BASMYN, PO Box 460268, SF 94146-0268.
LYFE (Lambda Youth & Family Empowerment) for lesbian, gay, bisexual & questioning young people. Provides support groups, leadership program, writing & performance classes and social activities. Info: 565-7681. Spons by Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services.
GALTIP (Gay & Lesbian Teen Intervention Program) provides info & confidential counseling in San Mateo County for youth and their families affected by issues of sexual identity. GALTIP is a program of Project FOCYS & the Peninsula Family YMCA. Info: Denee 342-5216.
Diamond Street Youth Shelter: Shelter for homeless kids in SF, part of SF Youth Network. 70 percent lesbian & gay staff. Open 9:45 pm-9 am. Offers shelter, meals, crisis counseling & referrals. Free. 536 Central Ave btwn Hayes & Grove, SF. Bus lines: 21 Hayes or 5 Fulton. Open to youth ages 13-17. No referral necessary to receive services. Call 567-1020 for info.
Young Lesbians: (25 & under). Ongoing rap/support group meets every Tues evening, 6-7:30 pm at the Pacific Center, Berkeley. Free. Info: (510) 548-8283
Young women's rap group for lesbian, bisexual & questioning women 23 & under meets Mon 7-9 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St at Valencia, SF. 3rd floor. Info: Call Felicia at LYRIC 703-6150.
Co-gender Bisexual Social Group spons by LYRIC meets Tues, 6:30-8:30 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St at Valencia, SF. 2nd floor. Info: 863-3636.
After-School Recreation Group for young people age 18 & under: Includes discussion, biking, hiking, camping, tennis, photography, self-defense class, movie nights. Info: Kathy at LYRIC 703-6150.
Gay Youth Community Coalition of the Bay Area: Provides advocacy, educational services, peer counseling, networking & technical assistance to sexual minority youth and youth projects. For details call 386-4297 or write PO Box 846, SF 94101-0846.
Lambda Youth Group: Gay, lesbian & bisexual support group for youth up to age 23 in southern Alameda County. Wkly mtgs on Tues, in a drug & alcohol-free environment. Occasional social activities, field trips, special events. Spons by Project Eden. Confidential. Info: (510) 887-0566.
Contra Costa Youth Group for gay, lesbian & bi youth, ages 21 and under. Group meets Sat at 5:30 pm at Pacific Center in Walnut Creek, 1250 Pine St, Ste 301. Info: (510) 939-7711.
Voices of Pride Sexual Minority Center in Oakland provides support services to gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning youth, ages 23 & under. Drop-in counseling on Tues, 3-5 pm. Facilitated peer support group Sun 3-5 pm. Info: (510) 530-8529 or (415) 533-4026.
InsideOut, a lesbian/gay youth newsmagazine, holds weekly mtgs, Thurs at 6 pm. If your're 23 & under and interested in the journalism or publishing industries or just want to get your work published, you're welcome! For more info call 985-5243 or write InsideOut, PO Box 460268, SF 94146. Youth-run paper.
Not So Straigh Talk for Teens: Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning youth ages 20 & under. Come meet other teens like yourself. Free. Facilitated by two group leaders. Spons by the Men's Network of Santa Cruz. 903 PaCIFIC Ave, Ste 207A (across from the Metro Center), downtown San Jose. Info: (408) 457-1441
Child Abuse Crisis Line for adolescent victims of child abuse. Spons by SF Suicide Prevention, see Hotlines & Referrals for details.

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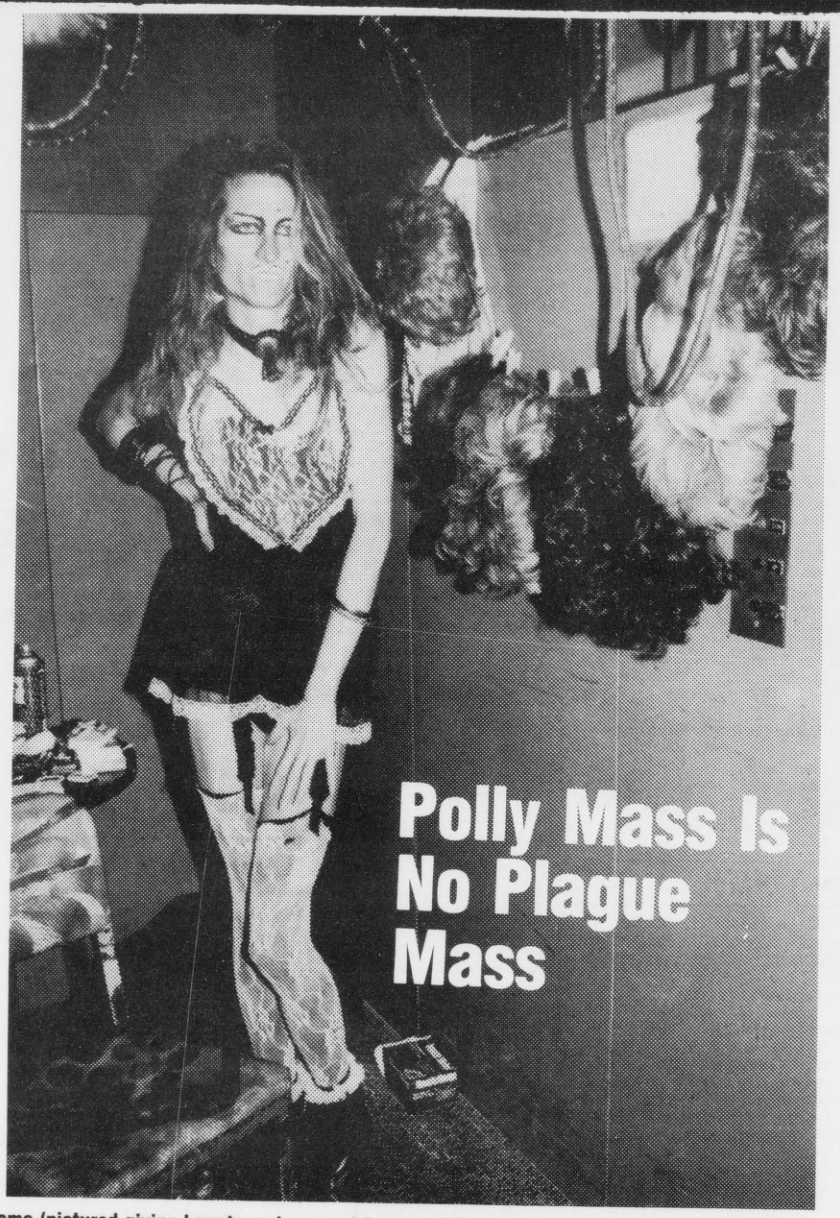

Jerome (pictured giving beauty make-overs) is part of the cast of "Merkinstock" at Slim's. Photo by Daniel Nicoletta.

While wandering around in my new neighborhood, I've noticed a graffitti image dotting the walls and sidewalks sporadically over a span of several blocks. The graffiti is concentrated in certain areas, spray-painted in many different colors. The images are squiggly-tailed sperm cells enlarged to about one foot long, rendered such that they give the illusion of forward motion. They dot the walls and sidewalks, congregating near the doors of certain bars like My Place and the no-longer-in-operation Powerhouse, pushing their way under the front doors, popping up at the adult bookstores, and swimming down dark alleys like Ringold. There, the trait-carrying pollywogs merge into a tributary of words painted in silver, the message reading: That last drop... should have killed me.

Speaking of death, the issue of unsafe sex has flared again. The latest lacerating attack on unsafe expressions of gay sexuality comes from our dear friend William Randolph Hearst III in an editorial titled, "Zero Tolerance for Unsafe Sex," in the Dec. 8 issue of the *Examiner*. As for the title, duh. If you don't agree and comply with that simple idea, then you're an asshole and you're killing yourself and others. The editorial calls for the closure of sex clubs to curtail the practice of unsafe sex and ends with the statement: "San Francisco prides itself on being tolerant. In the process, it shouldn't invite citizens to kill themselves in pursuit of a better group grope." Please. When the maid turns down the bed in Mr. Hearst's bedroom at home, isn't that an open invitation to death? We know that most unsafe sex occurs at home, between heterosexuals—AIDS being the fourth largest killer among women.

Speaking of death, my roommate hit a saturation point apparently last week when he heard one too many Polly Klaas updates and was caught screaming at the television: "Face it, people, she's dead in a ditch somewhere!" Tragically, this statement was confirmed days later, creating an odd, sad sense of relief, as it mercifully ended a two-month long epic saga. Gone are the screaming headlines; the tearful chats with her schoolmates; the live coverage of the bustling Polly Klaas Center; the charismatic pleas from the ever-calm Mr. Klaas; the updates of possible leads that went nowhere; the heartwarming gestures of community response; the celebrities donating large sums of money; and the grade school-crafted paper ornaments hanging on the Christmas tree at the Polly Klaas Center—just a little something to lift the spirits of the many volunteers, fanatically devoted. All of which turned the hellish fate of a young girl into a media frenzy that publishers and broadcasters exploited for profit, as they pathetically capitalized on America's never-ending obsession with brutality and violence. And all of which ignored the pain of thousands of children, focusing instead on a single quest to save "America's child."

The ensuing memorial was broadcast live for several hours, and featured a star-studded cavalcade of politicians and celebrities—even Ram Dass. Various politicians spoke of "Polly Power," the death penalty and building more prisons. Pete Wilson pushed his Old Testament conservative rhetoric to a point where I half expected to see a lynch mob forming outside the church.

As a children's choir sang a special song, we saw Polly's father bowing his head, eyes closed. We've seen lots of Polly's father. We've seen him being calm in the face of this tragedy, filling a nation with hope and hanging on to an urbane New Age-ish positivity. Other times we've seen him pound a table with his fist in a furious fit of rage; very School of Courtroom Drama. His eloquence and quite adept public speaking abilities have led to special requests of certain speeches being replayed on several local radio stations. Perhaps in time the Polly's Dead speech may become as recognizable as Nixon's Checkers speech. And this man who has never held public office or found the occasion to deliver insightful, emotional, gripping diatribes—he assembled messages that had a nation hanging on every word. I would even venture to say that Mr. Klaas will probably be in some public office by this time next year. The people love him for his bravery during the past two months.

This harrowing situation that generated about 60 days of intense focus on one 13-year-old missing girl, really opened the eyes of a nation to the crime of brutal abduction, one brutal abduction that is. But it has done literally nothing for the 1,500-plus others abducted since that fateful night Polly was snatched from her slumber party.

I began to wonder if such a storm would have been whipped up if the child abducted was a Black girl from projects. I doubt it. There wouldn't be gridlock traffic in Oakland because of her memorial service, and Linda Ronstadt wouldn't have been there I'll bet.

As I watched the many faces in the throng of grief hobbyists packing the house, I mean church, where Polly's memorial service went up for a one-night only extravaganza, I started to get really fucking angry. Of the faces in this crowd of funeral-friendly fuckwits, I doubted quite seriously that any of them had experienced the pain of losing ten friends in one month to AIDS. Nope,

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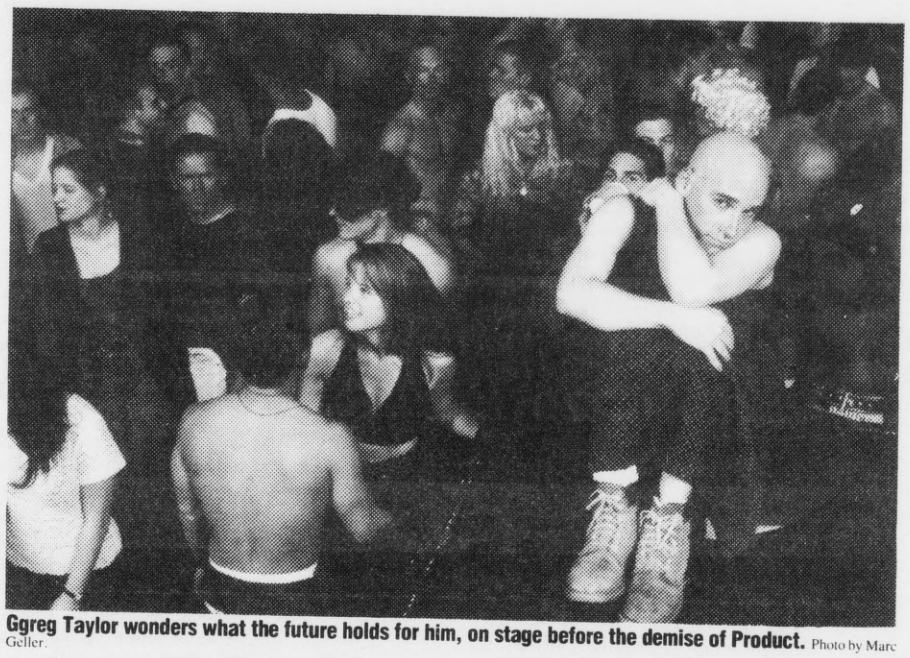
this morbid throng probably hadn't had a good cry since the Challenger space shuttle exploded. National tragedies are so cathartic. My roommate, Pierre, reading over my shoulder as I wrote the last line, commented: ''And so are little girls,'' then ominously stated that he was going out for a drive. Left alone and gazing at the videotape of Polly's funeral lent to me by my friend Nicolas, I noted the copious fancy floral stands along the walls of that church in Petaluma, no doubt sent to the memorial by wealthy sympathetic socialites, movie stars like Clint Eastwood or rock stars like Grace Slick. I had to wonder if one of those sympathy floral arrangements had been sent here by Michael Jackson. Polly was soon to turn 13 herself and Michael apparently likes that number... and pain pills, and sleepovers and secret flights—so many of the things that Polly will never be able to enjoy, ever.

Paean to The Goddess

Speaking of death, Diamanda Galas, after a sold out performance last month of her phenomenal *Plague Mass* here at the Warfield, returned for a two-night run of her show *Insane Asylum* at the more intimate Slims. Her set featured simply her and a grand piano. She performed blues and gospel selections, yet another thing poor Polly will never be able to enjoy. It was breathtaking. Never have I seen a more gifted vocalist so casually traipse down the annals of music history shredding every vocal great with her fierce, other-worldly prowess, proving that there simply is no other vocalist as great, living or dead. Her piano playing was equally powerful. How did she make a baby grand sound like the cheapest Wurlitzer that Sears has to offer during, ''I Put a Spell On You''? Few artists can get this jaded jaw to drop. She made me want to fuck on the floor and speak in tongues and shoot a gun and live, more things Polly will never get to enjoy. A fan screamed to her: ''We fucking love you!'' She coyly responded: ''I fucking love you, too.''

Finally achieving some semblance of the holiday spirit, I decided to make a few plans and share a few suggestions to help you readers brighten the remaining days of the year. One such way is to go see the ever-brilliant Arturo Galster doing Chet's sister Chesty Baker at the fabulous Eichelberger's, Dec. 18 at 10 pm. If her set goes well, we may get a chance to catch this dream of a vocalist every Saturday there. We should be so lucky. And as far as Xmas eve. goes, you're just plain dumb if you do not make reservations for ''Kiki and Herb Roasting on an Open Fire'' at Eichelberger's also. This will be the best motherfucking Xmas eve ever. And God bless pretty Polly. ✿



Ggreg Taylor wonders what the future holds for him, on stage before the demise of Product. Photo by Marc Geller.

The Death of Product

Selling Drug Addiction, Alcoholism And a Sense of Community

by Ggreg Deborah Taylor

Walking away from Product I feel empty, as though I have closed the door behind a trick who wouldn't kiss me goodbye. And as I watch Product pass into the distance, I find myself smirking alone at the door, self-consciously wondering if I am laughing in contempt, having played a joke on the unwitting masses, or if my smile is instead a response to the pain of abandonment and disillusion.

For the past year I have run Product, a disco which quickly became the biggest weekly queer nightclub San Francisco had ever seen, and from that experience I have learned a great deal.

In the late '80s San Francisco experienced a rebirth of youth culture. ACT UP, the Gay Olympics, Chaos and *Homocore* were all emblematic of a wave of energy which would wash over The City, revitalizing the scene in a few short years.

The crest, however, has since passed, taking with it Queer Nation, Mike & Lewis' evening empire, and the once burgeoning creative scene which challenged the status quo, as youth culture is wont to do. House music swept across the scene at the same time, touted as the sound of unification, blurring cultural boundaries at 120 beats per minute. Lady Miss Kier was shaking it for *us*, for our salvation, for world peace, and for the emancipation of the rhythm nation. In the wake of these phenomena, an epidemic of speed addiction has engulfed the subcultural elite, and the second wave of AIDS has broken upon the twentysomethings.

I grew appalled by the things that do bumps in the night.

As DJs took over the creation of music, melody became a casualty of the homogenizing ready-mix beat, and we became the generation without an anthem.

Entering Clubland, I was naively enthusiastic, believing I could make a difference, helping people party into empowerment. My fire-hazard underground loft parties had served as phenomenally successful underground melting pots, giving me the reputation necessary to launch a major club. Simultaneously, Carefree, the Saturday disco titan du jour, had become super-mega-ultra-uber-tired, as is the tendency of most mainstream clubs, unfortunately.

Product was the first mainstream club I had ever seen which drew *actual hipsters* and people who *do* things through its portals. Colossus, its predecessor, was never all that groovy, choosing instead to milk a commercial crowd with little character.

Product was an exciting and innovative toy to me, and the customers were a pool of willing participants in a weekly experiment. It felt as though the underground had received broadened acceptance. I revelled for a time in being queen of Discofantasyland. Who wouldn't?

Club proprietor status, however, is creepy and deceiving, and though I didn't notice it at first, after the hubbub of the Parade Committee subsided in July, I grew appalled by the things that do bumps in the night.

For a year I had served as co-chair of the Freedom Day Parade, which took all my ''free'' time, blurring my perceptions as I whizzed along in a work-induced frenzy. I'd had no time to take note of my surroundings.

Strangers had started treating me oddly. Club kids kissed my ass, muscle queens *acknowledged my existence*, politicians courted me, charities hounded me and one nearby gay business owner/infamous sleazebag tried to blackmail me. Though I am attention-starved and relatively egocentric, much of it came to appall me.

(continued on next page)

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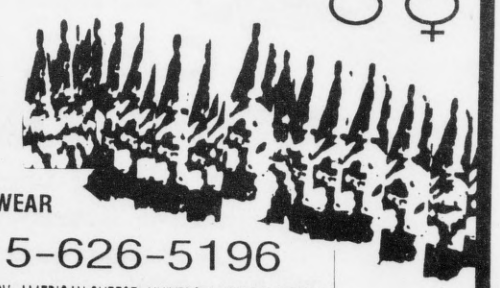

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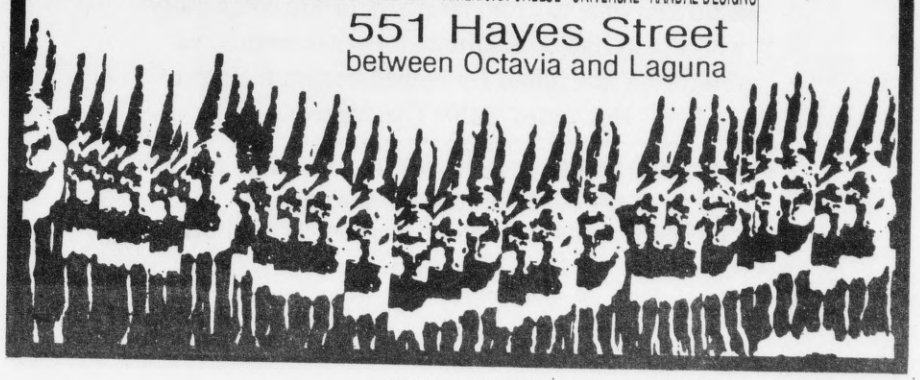

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The attention had little to do with me and everything to do with my position. Often when I looked into people's eyes, rather than seeing them focused on me, I saw them focusing on their own reflection in my eyes. Validation isn't pretty. People need to discover self worth in themselves, not through their associations.

No aspect of gay boy culture is untinged by the AIDS crisis, and nightlife acts as a perverted caricature portrait. Muscle queens and club kids, who have established themselves as the most visible characters in the big fag-dominated clubs, both reflect responses to the plague.

Club kids, a phenomenon originating in the mid-to-late '80s, represent self-consciously constructed, desexualized personae, physically inaccessible, armored against intimacy, seeking love from a safe distance. Attention through reinvention provides them with distant gratification and a sense of *somebodyness*.

Muscle queens manifest a veneer of strength as a protective shell, personifying health, at least visually, as a shield from the epidemic. The arrival of numerous gyms in the Market Street corridor in the last ten years serves as testament to this phenomenon.

Denial comes in more flavors than Yoplait.

Last winter, Ecstasy became expensive and unreliable, and the masses turned to consistent, relatively inexpensive, and highly addictive methamphetamine to tint the apocalypse. God forbid the masses should be sober enough to be able to chip the thin patina, and see the imperfections obscured by the fog juice hanging in the air. Speed delivers a false sense of confidence, ideal for a people maligned by their society.

The scene shifted when its hours were extended past last call and into the next day. Club Uranus and its ilk provided some sense of community and belonging, a social bomb shelter. But the underground and cafe societies dwindled as people spent more time crashing and recovering. Pounding bass expunged conversation, and flashing lights eradicated eye contact.

Chaos on Valencia Street in 1989 provided an opportunity to continue discussions spurred during the ACT UP meeting earlier in the evening. Far from this, Product became a stop on the Crystal circuit, sandwiched between Dekadance and Pleasuredome.

I began to paint a smile on my face each Saturday night, as I passed through the club handing out drink tickets to the self-appointed yet inconsequential elite. Obsequious, empty praise chilled me, like nails raking a chalkboard, and the likes of Yoko hollowly declared me "a club hero."

I sold drug addiction, alcohol denial and a false sense of validation. My hero! Care to dance, anyone?

Oversized rumors circulated about how much I made, as I grew to be a impersonal topic of conversation. Few people knew that I only *grossed* 25 percent of the door, and none of the bar, out of which I had to pay my expenses for staff, equipment, printing, advertising, etc. The *owner* was the one making the fortune, though he constantly denied it.

Much of the reason for Product's success was its guest list of doom, which assured that the beautiful and groovy would be there. On a typical Saturday, one-third to half the club got in for free. I'm bad with money, and have a hard time telling people no.

I also have a bad habit of spending what I have on friends, and I chose throughout the year to pay for socially significant queer events, such as the election night rally in the Castro, Pink Saturday '93, a free party in Du Pont Circle at the March on Washington, a couple of military demos, the entire office staff wages for the SF Parade Committee, as well as the Parade's disco area and sound system. Hey, what's money if you can't share it?

Product closed after 52 weeks. Though I am sad to see it go as both a cultural phenomenon and a source of income, I celebrate its passing. As my perception grew of the darker side of the fantasy ball, my interest waned, and I sat and counted the new crystal casualties. With my waning interest, so passed the club's energy.

From the experience, I grew, personally, a great deal. I came to appreciate the suburban masses far more than the second tier scene queens and the retail bitches, whose indignant, ungrateful airs and apathetic assuming nature chilled my being. Suburbanites tend to be less jaded, more appreciative and generally more genuine. They have less training in callous distance and more grounding in *real* interaction, not having yet perfected cocktail jousting and ladder climbing.

I revel in the knowledge that I no longer have to be nice to icky people, or listen to shallow adventures starring "our heroes," Chanel and Hermes.

Closing night, I sat with friends in the VIP Lounge's beanbag room and watched strangers mill to and fro, lit by the flickering fireplace, wondering about my future as well as theirs. ✿

food

BY WILLIAM FINKLE

Lulu Bis: Prix Fixe for Gen. X

A year ago I had never heard of Reed Hearon, and today he's one of the names that comes up most in conversations about the San Francisco food scene. His first venture, Lulu, is and was a huge success. Next came Cafe Marimba in the Marina, a down-and-dirty South of the Border eatery with the look and the taste of an authentic "Dia de los Muertos" celebration. Now his latest triumph is Lulu Bis, right next door to Lulu ("bis" in French indicates an address just above or adjacent).

Lulu Bis focuses on recreating place-specific regional foods from Spain, Italy and France. The menu, which changes weekly, might spotlight Languedoc, Piedmont or Catalan, but always includes four courses for $27: a room temperature antipasto of three to five dishes; a first course of pasta, soup, risotto or warm salad; a main course of fish or meat (your choice); and a dessert.

Designed, as was the original, by Cass Calder Smith, Lulu Bis's long, high-ceilinged room has a professional look, from the fresco of multicolored building profiles to the faux arches; from the open kitchen at the rear, with wood burning rotisserie and pizza oven, to the long sideboard displaying a handsome glass urn of marinated olives. Weird sconces shine tall "T's" on the pale yellow walls, and lightweight, oversize wood and straw chairs provide comfortable seating. Two rows of tables preside over the front space to accommodate larger groups, and smaller tables fill the rear, with parties of two or four sharing communal seating, as necessary.

Communal seating, you say? Yes, says Arnold Rossman, floor manager of Lulu Bis. The thoroughly '90s concept, heretofore seen only in cafeterias and picnics, adds spontaneity and conviviality—I like it a lot. Lulu Bis is not for the socially squeamish. It's a Masa's for Generation X. Fair prices, family-style serving and regional, authentic food make the place seem democratic, if you will.

White-jacketed cooks silently labor in the theater of the kitchen, while waiters clad in 501s, white pressed shirts and vivid ties move through the dining room. Italian ceramic platters hold enough portions for all diners in a party, and serving utensils are brought; so, as you help yourself you have the feeling you're at someone's house, rather than an upscale restaurant. It's a good feeling, and by the end of the meal you're enjoying the attention and the knowledge that the plates are being cleared (and washed) by someone unknown.

The first course platter of appetizers brought slices of a ricotta, spinach and artichoke *torta*, moist, simple and subtle; a tangle of sauteed broccoli rabe with olive oil and garlic, tender with a pleasant bitterness; pitted and split *medjool* dates graced with shaved parmesan cheese; and a rustic treat of dense, toasted slices of house-baked bread, smeared with chunky duck liver pate, peppery and rich. Halved loaves of the same wood-fired bread were flavorful, chewy and wonderful with soft, sweet butter, served alongside.

Next came a warm salad of roast *chanterelle* mushrooms, long shards of *pancetta*, balsamic-marinated onions and onion bread, a hearty, dish with all the texture, flavor and appeal of autumn.

The two main courses this night, **osso buco** and

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spit roasted trout, were palatable illustrations of Northern Italian fare. Lemon zest and parsley *gremolata* were dusted over the veal shank and its marrow. The veal was braised in a rich tomato enhanced stock, which a perfectly cooked *risotto milanese* absorbed. This version of osso buco, although cooked through, was underdone for my taste: I like my braised meats falling off the bone at the merest hint of a fork's approach, but, well, I'm picky. The trout was sublime, its sweet pink flesh stuffed and wrapped with sage leaves and *prosciutto*, the creamy polenta underneath a foil to the smokiness of the entire dish.

An excellent flute of Tattinger "La Francaise" (non-vintage, $8) began our meal on the right note. An impressively extensive wine list included many of the standbys, but also featured unusual gems like the Vin Gris de Cigare Bonny Doon ('92, $4 a glass) and the Italian magnum bottle (1.5 liter) of Salice Salentino Cosimo Taurino ($44). Their list of large & rare bottles is helpful for the many large parties Lulu Bis serves.

A chocolate chestnut torte had a texture somewhere between a mousse and a light cake (reminding me of a U-NO bar), with a refined chocolate essence, punctuated by a foamy Frangelico *zabaione*.

My only gripes with Lulu Bis are, surprisingly enough, the carelessness of the kitchen. On my first visit, a heavy-duty staple, probably from a box of produce, found its way onto my plate. On my second trip, a piece of a butter wrapper swam in my polenta, and as I was remarking on this, I looked up just in time to see the sous-chef finishing a sip from a ladle only to return the ladle to the pot. I cannot argue with the high-quality of ingredients and attention to authenticity in the menu, but I object to such sloppy regard for common hygiene.

I don't believe such a problem can be a lasting matter, and I'm confident things will improve if the careful service, delicious food and elegant surroundings are markers of the quality this restaurant can attain. ✿

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theatre

No Place Like Onstage For the Holidays

A plethora of comedies, musicals and performance pieces were launched during the current holiday season. Here then are some of the hits and misses.

Reviews by Gene Price

Deconstruction & Blasphemy With the Webers & Crawfords

THE WEBER FAMILY CHRISTMAS

It's with heavy heart that I report that one of San Francisco's finest and funniest holiday extravaganzas, the traditional *Weber Family Christmas*, is packing up its collection of trimmings, tinsel,

The Weber Family Christmas. Photo by Joegh Bullock

toys, turkey and Tater Tots and is bidding its ever-growing cult following goodbye.

Now in its sixth and final year, the Climate Theatre Production, aptly subtitled "A Charmingly Blasphemous Yuletide Tale," was written by Martin Higgins, Fratelli Bologna regulars Richard Dupell, John X. Heart and William Hall, and actor Drew Letchworth. Albert Takazauckas directs.

Drew Letchworth resigned from the cast this year to pursue other interests, and his role of simpering Sally Sue, the family's favorite and only daughter, is now played by Stephen Kearin. The other drag role, mother Naomi Weber, is rendered with gushing good cheer and heartwarming homilies by Dupell. Heart is once again the pipe-sucking, red-nosed father Phil, master of all the kitsch he surveys and fool-for-all-seasons. Speed-infused Bradley (William Hall), the semiadopted son who was left on the Weber doorstep ten years ago when his parents departed for vacation, is feeling not only his adolescent oats, but Sally Sue as well. It's your typical, Midwestern, God-fearing family on its best behavior.

Putting golf balls (marshmallows) into the audience, Phil actually lobs one in a 20-foot arc into the mouth of eager Bradley—a true miracle if there ever was one. Buxom Naomi does some puttering herself, whipping up a minifeast of turkey in her microwave and nipping from a pint of brandy to assuage her despair when anybody mentions the disappearance of her beloved pet (Phil ran over him).

The kids help with Phil's slideshow (the family safari via RV from Illinois to California after Phil's brother Bob stole the portable Weber barbecue design and made a fortune). Phil and Bradley reprise their "Sisters" song from *White Christmas*. Someone accidentally barbecues Naomi's canary instead of the Butterball. Bradley and Sally Sue watch a sex education video while the folks are out, and there's a visit from a swami promising a visitation from on high. Yes, true believers, Sally Sue is once again chosen as the vessel to bring forth a new, guitar-strumming King.

We'll miss the Weber family. The holidays just won't be the same. But the Fratelli Bolognas promise to be back next fall with an all-new show.

The Weber Family Christmas continues at the Bayfront Theatre (Fort Mason) through Dec. 26. If you haven't seen it, *go*. Call 392-4400.

Ann Drogynous as Miss Joan Crawford. Photo by Billy Douglas

CHRISTMAS WITH THE CRAWFORDS

Those irrepressible deconstructionists at the Artfull Circle Theatre have come up with another chapter in the continuing saga of MGM star and Mommie Dearest, Joan Crawford. Miss Ann Drogynous, who has put her very own stamp on the Crawford persona, is the star. She opens and closes the show with a leg kick that would have made ex-Charleston dancer, Crawford, proud.

Let's face it, the show was built around the talents of Ann Drogynous, and she runs the gamut of the Crawford style from simpering to slashing. Her only numbers, "White Christmas" and a later "Silent Night" are respectfully kept to a minimum in deference to her many guests. (Special lyrics inserted throughout the musical numbers are the witty work of Mark Sargent, co-creator with Wayne Buidens of this touching yuletide tale.)

Loosely based on an actual live radio broadcast from the 1940s, this production is set in Crawford's Brentwood living room with gossipmonger Hedda Hopper (Dinah Leffert) serving as emcee. The star's delightfully perverse and spiteful children, Christina and Christopher, are played by Molly Goode and J.J. Shades (who twirls a mean baton in his solo, "I'm Getting Nuttin' for Christmas").

Hollywood stars pop in to do numbers to the increasing consternation of la Crawford, who has to claw her way to the mike when she isn't occupied with slapping those kids around or popping off to her boudoir for a nip and a Pepsi chaser.

Hattie McDaniel stops by to warble "O Holy Night" and is relegated to maid duty. Judy Garland, Mae West and Zsa Zsa Gabor (Kate Simonton, Mark Sargent and Robert Stephens) swoop in to harmonize on "We Three Queens" and later join forces on "Silver Bells." Mae solos on, "Put the Loot in the Boot, Santa," and Judy solos on "Winter Wonderland." Marlene Dietrich (Molly Goode) strolls through in top hat and cane to deliver a breathy version of "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town," and the three Crawfords do a slam-dunk version of the "Chinese Dance" from *The Nutcracker Suite*. Yes, it's a radio show, but nobody argues with Crawford—she changes her costume eight times for her "radio audience."

Ethel Merman (Mark Sargent) blasts her way through a show-stopping "We Need a Little Christmas," and Judy returns for a very sweet and moving rendition of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

There are quiet moments too in this Brentwood living room when Crawford and the children open a few gifts to share with their radio fans. Christopher gets a new stainless steel restraining harness, and Christina is rewarded with the unfinished steak she left on her dinner plate. The children give Mommie Dearest a mobile decorated with photos of all their "ex-uncles," but unfortunately the mobile is constructed of wire hangers and Mommie throws a tantrum. We see Joan through the picture window, slashing down the rose garden (just like in real life). But she pulls herself together in time to dash inside for the finale. Her last words are a heartfelt command: "Goddammit, be happy."

Some 18 people put this show together, among them director F. Allen Sawyer; vocal arranger Trauma Flintstone; choreographer Kate Simonton; and set designers Wayne Buidens and Richard Winchester. Richard Sanchez was responsible for the elaborate costumes.

Christmas With the Crawfords continues at the Artfull Circle Theatre, 47 Waller, through Jan. 2. Call 626-5455.

Satires? Tributes? Silliness for Sure

A KAREN CARPENTER CHRISTMAS

Let me confess right off the bat that I was never a great fan of the Carpenters. Not that Karen didn't have a sweet, warm voice. She did. But after listening to a couple of their greatest hits, I had the urge to give up desserts for a month or two.

That said, I'd like to spread the news that the Carpenters are back. Well, Katie Guthron and Morey Goldstein are back at any rate, and they're playing Karen and Richard Carpenter at the Marsh. Written by Tom Ross and Goldstein and directed by Ross, the show also features Jo-Carol (who needs no introduction) in a number of roles; Steve Small (you loved him in Philip R. Ford's *Valley of the Dolls*); and J. Raoul Brody (who *certainly* needs no introduction) as Bob, backup musician and erstwhile boyfriend of Karen.

It's a 90-minute flashback to those Christmas specials of yore, but frankly I was left wondering whether it was supposed to be a sweet parody, a wicked satire or a loving tribute. I think it was a little of each, considering Karen's first line: "Hi, we're the Carpenters and Jesus was a carpenter, too."

After they open with an original song, "Things Are Looking Up in Downey," they move right along to "Rainy Days and Mondays." (Guthron's soft phrasing is remarkably evocative of Carpenter's technique.)

White bread pop singers from Downey, Calif., Karen and Richard are planning their Christmas special with Herb Alpert (Small), their record producer and "a really nice guy." Problem is, they haven't got a theme. So they decide to borrow a little from Dickens.

For the Christmas Past segment of their special, Alvin and the Chipmunks (Brody is the entire trio) join Karen on "Sing, Sing a Song." Representing Christmas Present, a brassy, bossy Barbra Streisand (Jo-Carol) bursts on, takes over the set, sings, "Don't Rain on My Parade," and allows

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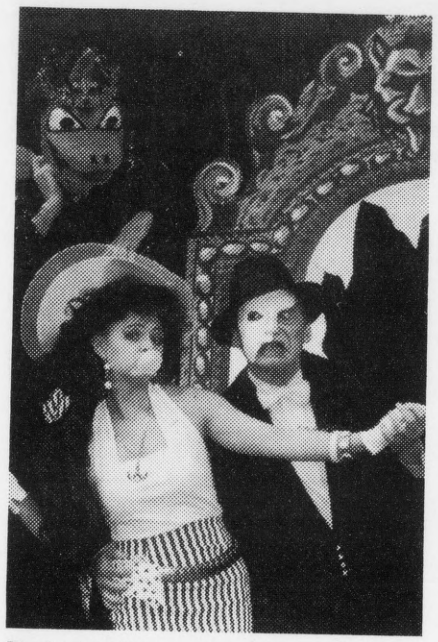
Karen to join her on a choreographed number by Pussy Tourette, "Enough Is Enough." (Jo-Carol's bitchy Barbra bit is well worth a lawsuit.)

I don't recall who says it, but about this time somebody refers to Richard (usually seated at the grand) as "clean, obedient and perpetually dazed." Mama Carpenter (Jo-Carol) crashes the rehearsal to urge Karen to eat a little something, and is quickly shunted off before the arrival of Ethel Merman (also played by Jo-Carol). Merman lays on some new lyrics to "There's No Business Like Show Business," and then shrieks her way through "Silent Night." David Cassidy (Small) shows up with his tambourine to croon "I Think I Love You"; Karen sings "Close to You"; and the entire cast joins in on the finale, "We've Only Just Begun."

You'll hear all of your favorite Carpenter songs in this yuletide special. Now through Dec. 30 at the Marsh. Call 641-0235.



The Lamplighters

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERETTA

Irreverance is the keynote of many year-end productions, and the Lamplighters' Champagne Gala was no exception.

At the end of each season (actually they begin in August) the creative staff begins piecing together a pastiche of Gilbert and Sullivan songs, hangs it onto an *au courant* theme, writes some new lyrics and puts on a company benefit.

This year the gala crew elected to do *The Phantom of the Operetta;* some 11 Lamplighters wrote new lyrics to Sullivan arias, slipping in an occasional ringer from Strauss and Jerry Herman. Barbara Heroux is credited with having written the dialogue and she also played the role of *diva assoluta,* Carlotta Battle, who has the misfortune to be standing under that wobbly chandelier. John J. Alecca produced.

Act One took place in the Basingstoke Regency Hotel where sundry guests were arriving, to the irritation of desk clerk Peter W. Weller. Proprietor Dr. Frankenstein was John Rouse; Wolf, the bellman, was William Neely; and lascivious Igor (who nearly steals the show) was Tim Hart. Ko-Ko Lloyd Webfoot, the famous composer of many hits (all with one song) was played by Christopher Walkey, and the delightfully horny Castashow Shorenstein, his casting director, was sung by Jean Cardin Ziaja. Rick Williams was the Phantom and Sherbonne Barnes was Myopia, the near-sighted girl who loved him but settled for Igor. Count Dracula was J. Geoffrey Colton and underground sex symbol Vampira was played with bloodthirsty seductiveness by superb comedian Jane Hammett.

Blushing newlyweds Draoul and Pristine (Dan Gensemer and Marti K. Berg) became separated and, after Vampira had her fill of tenor Daunt Reckless (Michael P. Mendelsohn), his brain was transferred into Pristine (now the captive student of the Phantom) who began to sing beautifully. Unfortunately she was limited to the tenor roles.

And those were only some of the guests at the Basingstoke Regency. Also present were that nice family from *Jurassic Park* and a convention of geneticists who were cloning dinosaurs (Lloyd Webfoot was musicalizing the film).

If you tried to follow the plot you'd suffer irreperable brain damage. Suffice it to say that, as usual, this annual camp production was lots of fun and beautifully sung. Songs with such titles as "Broadway Star Crushed by Chandelier" were set to music from *Die Fledermaus, The Mikado, The Gondoliers, Patience, Pinafore, Pirates of Penzance, The Merry Widow* and *Hello, Dolly.* (The Count made a grand entrance to a chorus of "Hello, Dracula.")

If you missed this gala, there'll be another one next year. ✿

Contemporary Classics That Touch the Heart

A CHRISTMAS MEMORY

Bypassing Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* this year, I chose to initiate the holiday season with a couple of 20th century classics. A quiet half hour listening to a recording of Dylan Thomas reading his "Child's Christmas in Wales" is an event to be savored, preferably curled up alone on the sofa or perhaps with a friend who has promised not to interrupt the poet's sonorous Welsh voice. Thomas' memory trip begins with: "I can never remember whether it snowed for six days and six nights when I was 12 or whether it snowed for 12 days and 12 nights when I was six."

That tradition properly observed and relished, and in the spirit of loving goodwill, I once again attended Robert Coffman's annual reading of Truman Capote's "A Christmas Memory" at Theatre Rhinoceros. Beautifully written, the autobiographical story takes us once again to Aunt Sook's kitchen (Coffman's reading of "A Thanksgiving Visitor" was offered a few weeks ago at Theatre Rhino) where she and Buddy are planning their annual marathon fruitcake bake.

Relegated to the back of the house by her brother and two sisters, the 60ish Sook (who is a touch "special") and the preteen Buddy (who has been semiabandoned by his traveling mother) share a remarkable love for one another. Throughout the year they save their pin money in a common fund—a penny here, a dime there—for the makings of their Christmas fruitcakes. Then, on the first frosty morning, they're off to the pecan grove where they fill a dilapidated baby buggy with fallen nuts; to the store for additional supplies; and, finally, to the local bootlegger for a quart of his best whiskey.

Sook and Buddy's Christmas list is a model of caring. With no friends of their own, they send a fruitcake to President Roosevelt at the White House, one to an itinerant salesman, one to the bootlegger, as well as to scores of people who have passed their way during the year. Having spent their savings on fruitcakes for relative strangers, they can only give each other the same gifts as always, homemade kites.

One of the most touching reminiscences in contemporary literature, this simple tale of love and loss could not have found a more loving voice than the skilled actor, Robert Coffman.

ALMOST SEPTEMBER

TheatreWorks' holiday presentation is a new musical, *Almost September,* and in my opinion it's *almost* perfect. The intelligent book and lyrics by David Schechter and Steven Lutvak are set to a lilting score by Lutvak, while Schechter directs with considerable flair and imagination.

Joe Ragey's set is a rambling attic in an English country house, where long-abandoned artifacts are utilized to propel the play-within-a-play. Fumiko Bielefeldt's costumes are a charming assembly of discarded bits of flotsam and jetsam, and Pamela Gray Bones' lighting does a noteworthy job of making the transition from one level of reality to another. Lita B. Libaek is musical director.

Six young cousins (all played by adult actors)

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Almost September. Photo by WGP Enterprises.

(continued from previous page)

have spent the summer of 1909 at their grandmother's house and are now packing to return to school in London. Cousin-in-charge Eustace (Michael Babin) is prevailed upon by young Molly (Andrea Chamberlain) to read, just one more time, Kenneth Graham's *The Wind in the Willows.* As Eustace reluctantly begins to read, the cousins don bits of costumes, choose props (snowshoes for wings, a parasol for a hot-air balloon, tennis rackets for canoe paddles; picnic baskets, picture frames, feathered hats) and begin to dramatize the story of the incorrigible car-wrecking Toad of Toad Hall.

Theodora (Lisa Kass) delivers a superb characterization of a hammy, flamboyant actress who takes the role of goggle-eyed Toad, managing to insert a witty bit plagiarized from Portia's speech in *The Merchant of Venice.* Alexander (Price Waldman) is cunning Rat, Molly is impressionable Mole, Eustace is forced to play Badger and twins Herbert and Hermione (Ron Pickett and Sebastian Ryder) fill in the remaining roles, both comic and heroic.

Many of the songs are designed to service the *Wind in the Willows* subplot. My particular favorites were "Far From Home," "The Company You Keep," "Home Again" and "Almost September." Babin, Kass and Chamberlain are outstanding vocally and the entire ensemble merits an A+.

My complaints are few. A bit of judicious editing could well bring the musical in at under two hours. The literary efforts of would-be poet Alexander might be cut, for instance, and there were too many encores of "Home Again" at the show's finale; considering that it isn't the prettiest tune in the show, one reprise would have sufficed. Otherwise, *almost* perfect. Children, I'm advised, are enchanted.

Almost September plays through Jan. 8 at the Lucie Stern Theatre, Palo Alto. Call 329-2623.

George Coates' Techno-Marvel

Review by Tom W. Kelly

BOX CONSPIRACY: AN INTERACTIVE SHO

George Coates presents "Box Conspiracy: An Interactive Sho," a comic musical in 3-D about the effect of 5,000 interactive cable television channels on one family's life.

He's done it again! George Coates's newest techno-spectacle, titled *Box Conspiracy: An Interactive Sho* and currently playing at the George Coates Performance Works, pits man against the inevitable onslaught of video-tronic mind surveillance. Supremely visual, *Box* masterfully intermixes live action and 3-D projections (by Stephen Joseph). As in so many of his works, Coates's visuals are accompanied by a compelling abstract musical score. A marvel.

Coates fans may be surprised to see a clear beginning-middle-end narrative to *Box*, rather than his customary nonlinear leaps through time and space. By focussing on the progress of the characters, the message of the piece takes precedence. And in *Box* that message includes elements of isolationism vs. independence and invasion of privacy vs. connectedness.

Unemployed Derek (Tim Wiggins) refuses to allow himself, his wife (Emerald O'Leary) and daughter (Susan Fatma Volkan) to become a test market family in order to maintain some cherished privacy. But his wife, a modern day Eve, is duped into signing on, whereby she instantly receives credit with no upper limit and 5,000 interactive cable television channels. That's 5,000 apples of knowledge! The price? Her every channel choice, tele-purchase, etc. is recorded by the insidious marketing firm. As she becomes immersed in rampant teleshopping and psychotic paranoia, her young daughter is busily digging a huge hole in the backyard with her new playmate/lover. Meanwhile Derek tries selling his computer gizmo, which specializes in creating chaos, causing him to accidentally become a tele-techno-terrorist.

As with most of Coates's work, *Box* focuses on the male psyche. The men fight and form their own realities. The women, on the other hand, whether strong-willed or not, tend to be swept along with the many other fascinating images. Perhaps someday Coates will apply his incredible imagination to explore female energy.

Music by Marc Ream heightens and shapes the ever-changing flow of images and moods. Urgent dissonant strains and rhythms sensually modulate to lighter, more harmonious progressions. An exotic and erotic score.

What a theater space!!! The audience's first sight upon entering the seating area is a wide-screen projection of an isolated house atop a craggy hill. The vaulted cathedral ceilings and stone walls (this used to be a church) are aglow with pale techno-green light in the shape of circuitry matrices. The space, the artist and the show are all orchestrated into a symphony of ideology and concept.

Those damned cardboard 3-D glasses! If you're vision impaired but can wear contact lenses, do so. Manipulating your glasses with the 3-D devices results in the cardboard either digging into the bridge of your nose or popping off your face altogether. But since the effect they provide is usually marvelous, be prepared.

Box runs a bit long for the relatively simple (albeit relevant) story, but it is yet another techno-marvel created by a master. Coates fans will enjoy this not-so-distant futuristic nightmare, and those new to his work will marvel at the direction he's taken with theatrical innovation and spectacle. Theater of the future to experience today.

Box Conspiracy: An Interactive Sho at G. C. Performance Works, 96 McAllister, open-ended run. $14-$34. 863-4130. ✿

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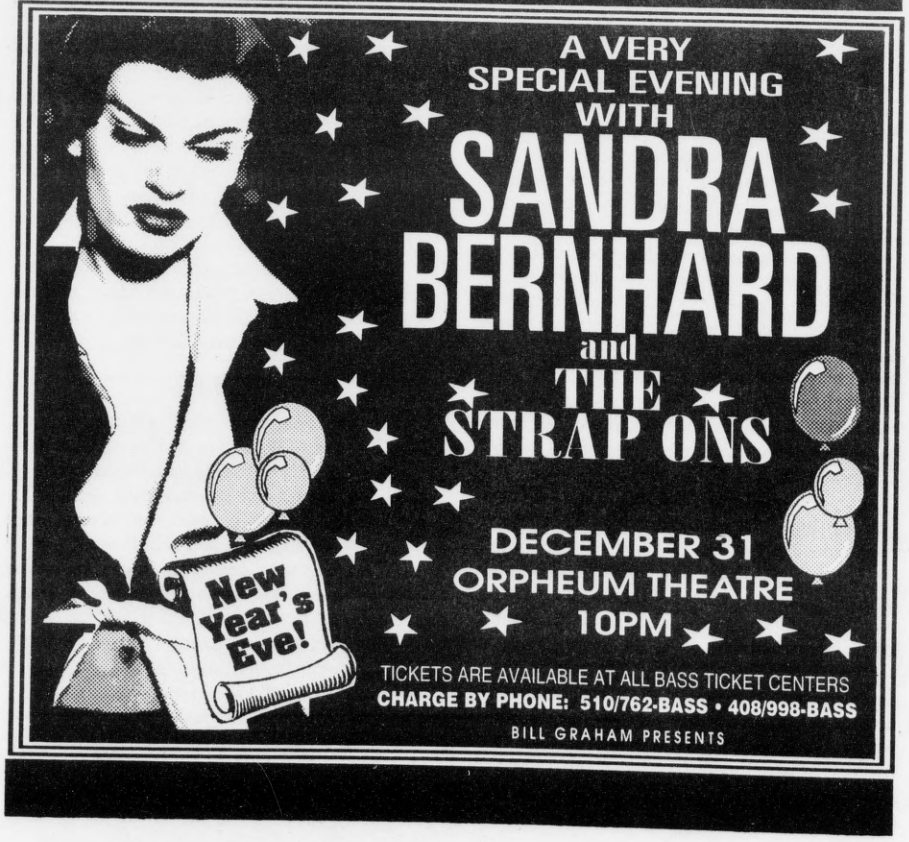

cabaret

BY GENE PRICE

Jake Finnegan's Rendezvous Club

Only a decade ago cabarets and cabaret performers flourished in San Francisco or at least managed to pay their rents. The good news is that a new cabaret has come to town. The not-so-good news is that, while the facility itself, a redesigned space in Embarcadero Three, is fine, the scripted ''speakeasy'' concept at the Rendezvous Club is lacking in spontaneity. I had the uncomfortable feeling that a ''laugh track'' would kick in at any moment.

You ring the bell, tell the bouncer, ''Jake sent me,'' and a flapper hostess escorts you to a table. It's prohibition, remember, and drinks are poured into coffee cups.

Madam of the establishment, a sort of latter-day Texas Guinan, is Dioni Michelle Collins (recently of *Irving Berlin in Review*) who acts as emcee, cracks the whip over the other entertainers and takes the stage herself to belt such standards as ''Ain't Misbehavin'.'' She also joins Anna Gurski on a less ebullient rendition of ''Can't Help Loving Dat Man.'' Gurski's later solo on ''Ten Cents a Dance'' fails to reveal a vocal or emotional understanding of the song's lyric message.

Tap dancer Wayne Doba, called upon to recite some strained dialogue, lacks his usual flair on ''Sweet Georgia Brown,'' but the angled stage may well constrain his movement. Leggy Cynthia Glinka, sporting an exquisitely beaded and slinky white gown, wriggles through ''Black Bottom'' with the Jesters, and the whole ensemble

Photo by Bob Hsiang

takes to the stage for ''Let's Misbehave.'' Barry Lloyd presides at the piano and adds his voice to the vocals.

As for the Jesters, longtime personal favorites of this reviewer, they are ill-used in this production. Without peer in their sparkling arrangements and vocal renditions of period songs, this elegant trio (Richard ''Scrumbly'' Koldewyn, Barrett Lindsay-Steiner and AC Griffing) is unfortunately required to play roles in addition to what they do best—singing. Left to their own devices, as on ''The Sheik of Araby'' and ''Tiger Rag,'' they're a delight, and their spoof of old-time live radio (with commercials) in the ''Pepsolux'' skit is a charmer.

Not having received a program when I entered Jake's, I left after the first set, incorrectly assuming the show to be over.

Directed by Julie Cesari (*Tony 'n Tina's Wedding*) and written by Reed Kirk Rahlmann, *Jake Finnegan's Rendezvous Club* is a production of Mark Gordon and was apparently created for private parties, benefits and conventions. As environmental theater, it leaves the distinct aftertaste of an event that's trying too hard to involve the audience in a good time.

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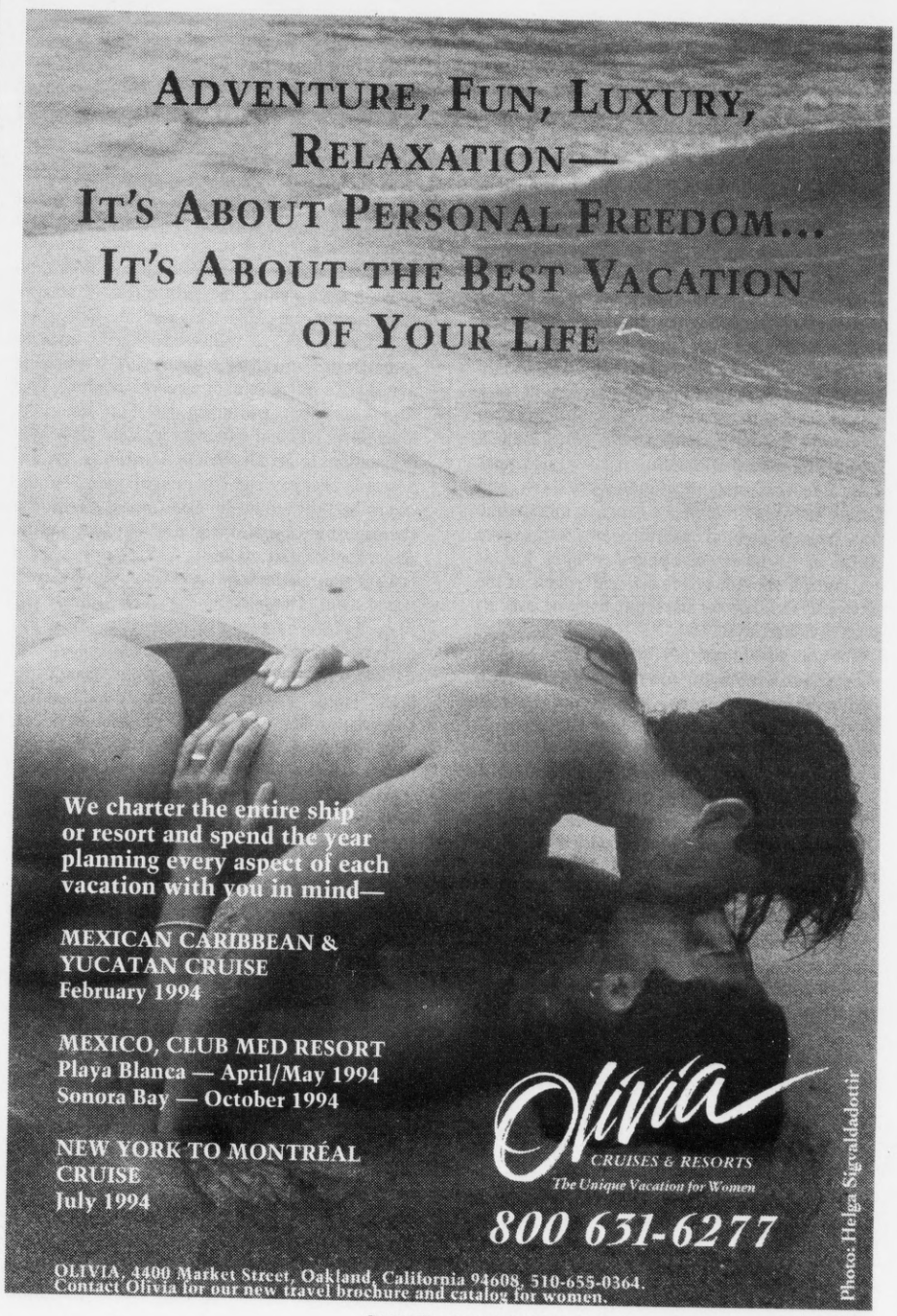
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film

Mainstream Gay Films and Six Degrees of Separation

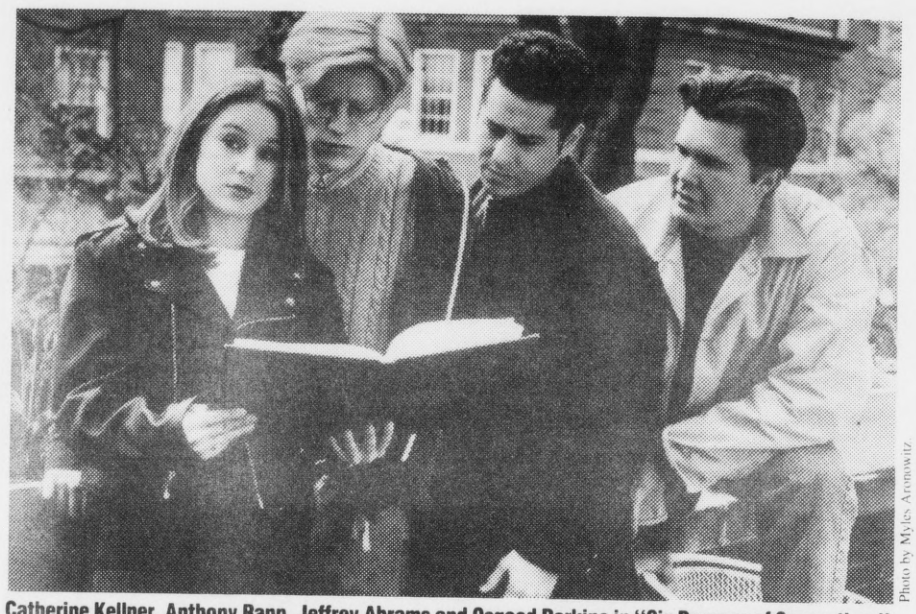


Photo by Myles Aronowitz

Catherine Kellner, Anthony Rapp, Jeffrey Abrams and Osgood Perkins in "Six Degrees of Separation."

by Randy Turoff

Gay films are lined up on the runway, readying for their maiden voyages into the American mainstream. In particular, three films with gay subjects are bound to make an impact on American moviegoers. The first of these, *Six Degrees of Separation*, opens at the Kabuki on Dec. 22. The film, directed by Fred Schepisi, is based on gay playwright John Guare's recent Broadway hit. Television's "Fresh Prince of Bel-Air," Will Smith, plays Paul, a young con man working the social set of Upper East Side Manhattan. Paul is Black and gay, and Guare uses both realities to provoke and invoke an urbane, thoughtful, and often witty social satire of life in the upper-class liberal echelon. Luckily, there's enough griminess and punch in the characters to keep the film from tripping over its own polished style.

Another film, *Angels in America*, based on the theater blockbuster by Tony Kushner, is still in the developmental stage. With Robert Altman directing, this film may prove to be a collaboration made in media heaven.

Closer to home and opening next month is *Philadelphia*, the first gay studio movie made by Hollywood and starring Tom Hanks. It's an AIDS story set in the competitive milieu of high-powered lawyers. Denzel Washington co-stars.

As gay culture begins to interface consciously in the media with the culture at large, and as gay characters become less scarce, less stereotyped, less threatening and depicted with more fluidity and individuation, I can't help but wonder how, if, when, and where lesbians will enter the market. To date, no identifiably lesbian films are on the mainstream slate—no lesbian themes, no lesbian directors or producers or scriptwriters are in evidence. Gay male characters may not be accepted as part of the norm yet, but they are beginning to appear on the screen with full credence given to their homosexuality. I wonder when gay women will appear as lesbians on the screen without being portrayed exclusively as twisted bisexuals, as porn objects of male fantasy, or as monstrous projections of one sordid fear or another. or another.

From One Con to Another

Last year the big gay Christmas movie was *The Crying Game*, in which a presumably straight guy is duped into homosexuality by a man living as a woman. The posturing (which was fabulous) drove the film along the twin tracks of steamy romance and con game. This year, the Christmas film *Six Degrees of Separation* takes a broader although measured look at gay sexuality operating outside of a subcultural or romantic context. This film is also about posturing, but it occurs on the level of social class rather than gender or sexual orientation. In *Six Degrees of Separation*, the impostor is also gay and a person of color, but the stakes are different. In *The Crying Game* the character was obsessed with romantic love and the desire for domestic security. In *Six Degrees*, Paul is a top man and he wants power, wealth and high social status. Of course, the need for security and love finally runs everybody's show in everybody's movie. And this one is no exception.

Six Degrees of Separation skips through its highly literate narrative at a gossipy pace, building suspense as it goes. The story follows Paul, an engaging and rehearsed charmer, as he manages to insinuate his way into the lives and psyches of a group of wealthy, arty Manhattanites by pretending to be a college friend of their children and the son of Sidney Poitier. Flash forwards and flash backs, and scenes within scenes make the story structure literary and intellectually fun. The superficial supper club chatter and social patter is often ironic and humorous. Beneath the partying, restaurant dining, trips to Rome, museum openings, sanctified couplings and privileged lives lies a deep and lurking dissatisfaction and desperation. At this nexus, the characters' lives open up to each other. He-who-has meets he-who-has-not, and they merge (as in *Persona*) into the one face of (she) he-who-wants more. Although the options afforded the two by class, race, and respectability are entirely at odds, the hustle to get more is the same.

The gay subplot within the larger story is pivotal, as it is the main hustle of the play, the motor which sets the machine in motion. On a rainy night in Boston, white college boy Trent picks up Paul, Black street kid. Before they have sex, hustler Paul strikes up a bargain. Trent tells secrets about the rich people in his address book to Paul, and Paul removes one object of clothing for each of Trent's revelations. "Ooh," Trent squeals, "just like Scheherazade."

Just as Trent is intent on getting back at his liberal, phony, homophobic social class, so Paul is determined to get a leg up on Trent, as well as his entire social group of people who oppress him but whose lives he envies.

However manipulative Paul may be, and however he uses his sexuality to score, his eroticism is shown as positive. The sex scenes are not too obscured in this mainstream movie. On a Joe Bob scale I'd have to give points for full-frontal hunky nudity, naked men in bed together, mouth to mouth kissing, a short tango cut, and explicit equation of homosex and pleasure, despite one messy suicide.

The other heavy rap in the play/film comes from Paul's analysis of *Catcher in the Rye*. Basically, everybody is phony and self-involved and paralyzed by a death of the imagination. The trouble with society, Paul continues, is that imagination has become synonymous with style, and he believes that it's just the opposite—imagination is the deep route to becoming truly ourselves. The Kittredges, played by Donald Sutherland and Stockard Channing, are intellectually ensnared by Paul's rehearsed erudition and his finesse in mind-fucking. This along with his promise to find parts for the Kittredges in his father's (Sidney Poitier's) upcoming movie of *Cats* earns Paul direct access to this forbidden world; Louisa Kittredge invites him to stay the night. The rest of the plot revolves around unravelling Paul's alias and unveiling the con.

Everybody on this planet, according to Guare's metaphor, is only separated from each other by six other people. If you find the right six people you can make a complete connection. Frankly, I'm not sure what he means by this any more than I have ever been able to understand how all those monkeys on all those old typewriters ever ended up writing *Hamlet*.

As a play/film script I think *Six Degrees* is somewhat uneven and contrived, especially the Rikers Island bit at the end. What bothered me the most is the utter caricaturing of the children at Harvard and Dartmouth. Instead of affording them even a modicum of depth, the offspring are drawn without any subtlety, as cartoon characters, lending the script a silly instead of satiric feel whenever they appeared on screen. Even if they are meant to be stupid and lazy, the writing has to be up to par; otherwise it's just cheap laughs.

Six Degrees of Separation is a good Christmas movie with pretty views of Central Park and skyscrapers at night. The acting is good, the repartee amusing. Although the plot and main character are overdetermined, you can still find things to talk about with a getting-to-know-you date or with your literate brother-in-law. In a basic sense, the film is about making anecdotes out of our lives and entertaining others. Happy holidays! ✿

The Trash Bin

by Greta Christina

WAYNE'S WORLD 2

Dumb and not very funny. Vastly inferior to the original, which was dumb, but very funny. A clear victim of sequel-itis: the mistaken belief that if a joke was funny in the first movie, it'll be just as funny in the second. Cool soundtrack, though (Aerosmith live, man!), and the movie is somewhat redeemed by a friendly and good-natured gay bar scene.

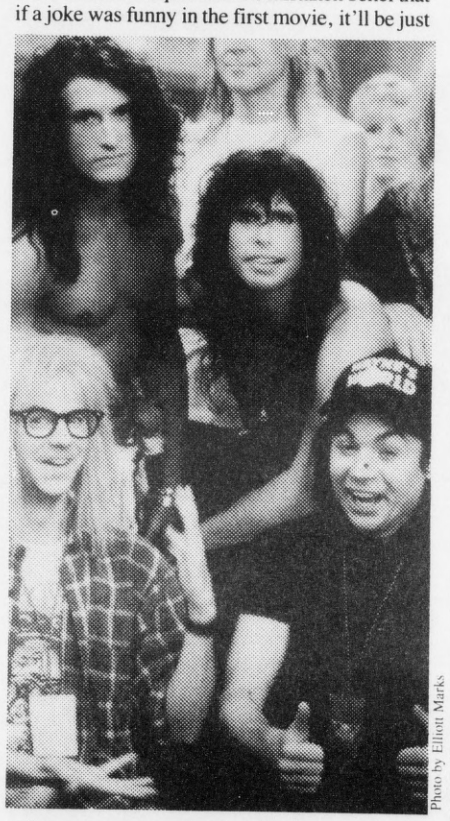


Photo by Elliott Marks

SISTER ACT 2: BACK IN THE HABIT

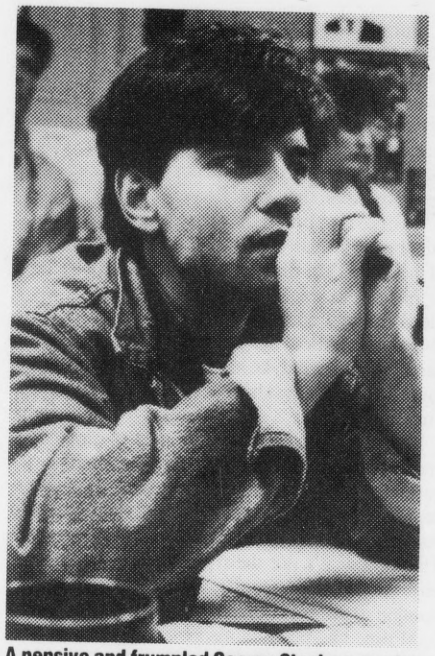
What a waste of time. Whoopi Goldberg deserves better material than this. The premise is ridiculously unbelievable; the script is formula at best. And the heartwarming finale consists of—oh, dear God, I was hoping I would never have to write these words again—the scrappy-but-lovable kids with the undiscovered talent winning the All-State choir competition, proving to everyone just how much they'd been misjudged, and saving the school in the bargain. Sigh. When the specter of the Big Competition at The End began to loom, I almost walked out. This particular denouement is getting old. Really old. Really, really, *really* old. I would be willing to bet that there is an as-yet-undiscovered play by Aristophanes in which the underdog kids from the wrong side of Greece win the big shotput competition at the end of the play, while somehow managing to save the Parthenon from being torn down. It is a dumb, shoddy, predictable ending, thrown in for cheap sentiment, when the screenwriter can't figure out any other way to get the audience to give a damn about the characters. It is beyond tired; it is napping, it is sound asleep, it is possibly even comatose. Also, the lip-synching sucks.

MAN'S BEST FRIEND

This is a truly awful movie, and despite the fact that I enjoyed it immensely, in all fairness I really can't recommend it. I doubt that I would have enjoyed it as much, if I hadn't spent the whole day watching dumb big-budget sequels. *Man's Best Friend* is about a hyper-intelligent, pan-dimensional, violently psychotic, genetically mutated, shapeshifting cyberdog. (Too bad it wasn't possessed by demons as well; that would have made the picture complete.) The special effects are, shall we say, remarkable—a ferocious dog attack consists of a close-up on the growling, slavering creature, followed by a shot of a stuffed animal being thrown over a fence. Entire minutes of entertainment are to be had spotting the next victim (a form of amusement that I like to call the Dead Meat Phenomenon). You could almost see the vultures landing on people's shoulders. My favorite bit was when the cop thought he saw the psycho monster dog, so he went out searching for it alone. In the dark. Under the house. Unarmed. Starring Ally Sheedy. (No, not as the dog, you cads; shame on you for even thinking such a thing.)

GERONIMO: AN AMERICAN LEGEND

The true heroes in the saga of the legendary Apache warrior are (I kid you not): a pack of courageous, heroic, sensitive, caring, white U.S. Army officers. Yuck. In addition to being deeply offensive, this movie is incredibly badly made, with dialogue that consists mostly of dumb epic speeches, and camerawork that manages to make the gorgeous vistas of the American Southwest



A pensive and frumpled George Stephanopoulos in "The War Room." Photo by David Burnett.

look drab and flat. My friend Chip hit the nail on the head; he said you should never trust a movie with a colon in the title. (For example: *Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit*.) Starring Jason Patric, Gene Hackman, Robert Duvall and—Oh, yeah, that's right. There was someone playing the title role, wasn't there? He's mentioned in the credits, somewhere between the key grip and the caterer—Wes Studi as Geronimo. (P.S. I haven't seen it, but word has it that the Ted Turner made-for-cable version is not only much better made, but actually tells the story of Geronimo and the Apache people, with white people portrayed as background figures only. What a concept. Almost makes me wish I had cable.)

THE WAR ROOM

If you're an electro-politico-junkie, then you'll probably find this movie fascinating. If, on the other hand, you find electoral politics to be depressing, repulsive and a crashing bore, then you'll very likely be depressed, repulsed and crashingly bored by it. A documentary about Slick Willie Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign, *The War Room* highlights the "accomplishments" (i.e., shameless hucksterism and media manipulation) of campaign manager James Carville and media flack (excuse me, communications director) George Stephanopoulos. I think I was supposed to come away from this film with warm, fuzzy feelings of admiration and respect for the men who brought the Democratic Party into the '90s. However, since my opinion of the modern realities of national electoral politics in the '90s is that they're a misbegotten crossbreed between the visions of George Orwell and Stephen King, I was neither warmed nor fuzzied. Still, it's a

(continued on next page)

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Tina DiFeliciantonio

Tina DiFeliciantonio is a producer/director/cinematographer. Her first film, *Living With AIDS*, completed while she was still a student, won a National Emmy Award. I spoke with Tina at her home in the Mission district.

(Bay Times) How did you begin as a filmmaker?

(DiFeliciantonio) I was an undergraduate majoring in business, when I realized that business wasn't doing it for me, so I took some humanities courses. One of my classes was filmmaking, and I was instantly hooked. I started doing internships while I was an undergraduate, and then was accepted into the Stanford Graduate Film program. My thesis film was *Living With AIDS*, which won an Emmy.

How did you get funding for Living With AIDS*?*

Because it was done as a thesis project, I was able to get all the equipment from Stanford. My crew labor was free because they were all students, with the exception of the cinematographer, Frances Reid, who was the only professional who worked on the film. And Frances practically donated her services. I also got a lot of in-kind donations for everything from catering to the final sound mix. I did a lot of grant writing and got some money from foundations. And I used my personal savings and got student loans to live on while I was editing the film. So it was a combination of beg, borrow and steal... the usual method of funding this type of film.

What happened after Living With AIDS*?*

I was actually pretty overwhelmed by the whole experience. I was really in debt. I came out during the process. I needed a break, so I decided not to go right into making another one of my own films. Instead, I worked for other people on a few feature films and did the cinematography for some documentaries. I spent a couple of years doing that. But eventually, my partner, Jane Wagner, and I decided to focus again on our own work.

Tina DiFeliciantonio came out—to herself and her colleagues—while she was making "Living with AIDS." Photo by Jil Posener.

A few projects we began five years ago are now finally coming to fruition. One of them is a documentary on wartime rape. It focuses on my grandmother, who was gang-raped in Italy during WWII. That will be aired on National Public Radio in March. Another is an hour-long offbeat film called *Madonna Mia*, on teenage girls, sexuality and gender. It was just selected for funding by ITVS, the Independent Television Service. That doesn't guarantee a broadcast on PBS, but the likelihood is very good.

We've also done a lot of research for a historical documentary called *Silent Voices of the Silver Screen*. It deals with how women and independent filmmakers in the early part of this century got pushed to the margins of the industry by big business. Basically, it's about who controls the media. And, I'm acting as a series consulting producer for *Rights and Reactions*, a gay civil rights series for PBS. I was first asked to produce one of the hourlong segments, but that would have meant moving to New York for a year and a half and dropping all the projects I have going here. But, as a consulting producer, I'm able to help shape the series without having to be there all the time. I fly to New York on a regular basis, and we do a lot of work by phone and fax... so it's just endless.

When you realized you were a lesbian, did you come out to the people you worked with?

Immediately. The only way I can interact with other filmmakers is to just be myself. I find that even thinking about being in the closet is a drain of energy, and I don't have any to spare. It's easier to be out among documentary filmmakers than in feature film productions. The studios are very hierarchical and people tend not to communicate any more than they really have to.

I worked on one film where I had a problem with how a lesbian character was being portrayed in the script. The director happened to be a friend of mine, and she knows I'm a lesbian, but she didn't quite understand my opposition to the characterization of this policewoman as a sort of stereotypical bull dyke having derogatory things said about her behind her back. But eventually the director did make a script change.

It's funny, because there are a lot of gay men and lesbians who work on features and, in my experience, they generally do not speak up about problems they may have with a script. I think that's again because of the hierarchical structure. They know it's not their place to comment or criticize. I believe, though, that if you bring your opinion to the attention of the right person at the right time and place in a sort of conversational style, the suggestion will usually be welcomed. But that's a risk I take.

What positions did you have on the feature?

Recently I've worked as the assistant to the producer. I've learned a lot in this position, but I think I'm ready to move up the hierarchy a bit. What I like about the role is that you're involved in everything that's going on. You get to be a fly on the wall in terms of the decision making and crises that come up. And when asked your opinion, I think you really get the producer's ear, because you're so close all the time.

What is the work like?

The hours are very long. I like to work for very smart, driven women. I learn a lot from them, not just in terms of technical knowledge, but also how they manage their work, the professional side of things. So, you get up at five in the morning. You're at work by six. You're on the set until they finish reviewing the dailies and eat dinner, which is around eleven o'clock at night. You get to bed around midnight and then get back up at five. You're pretty much working around the clock for six months or more. When I worked on *Citizen Cohn*, I even had a beeper. I mean, if I was out of the producer's sight for more than a minute, I could count on getting beeped. It was stressful.

Trash Bin...

(continued from previous page)

reasonably well-made documentary, and just because the filmmakers wore rose-colored glasses doesn't mean you have to.

A DANGEROUS WOMAN

I'm not quite sure why this movie was made, what the point of it is, or even what it's really about, but Debra Winger is pretty fucking amazing. As far as I can tell, it's basically a Cassandra story, starring Winger as Martha, a retarded woman who doesn't know any better than to speak the truths that the people around her don't want to hear. The story is kind of a muddle, and not much happens until the too-dramatic ending, which feels like it was tacked on because they couldn't think of any other way to finish the damn thing. But Winger's performance is remarkable, and at a time when mainstream movies have almost no decent roles for women, the movie is worth seeing for that reason alone.

GRETA'S REP HOUSE RECOMMENDATIONS

This is definitely the week to settle into the friendly surroundings of the Red Vic. Selections include the pretty gosh-darned amusing *Manhattan Murder Mystery* on Dec. 15 & 16; the beautiful and haunting *Fearless* (one of my favorite movies of the year) on Dec. 17 & 18; the even more beautiful and haunting *Wings of Desire* on Dec. 23, 25 & 26; *Lolita* on Dec. 19 & 20; and *The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. T* on Dec. 27 and 28. *Dr. T* also plays at the Castro on Dec. 18, on a double bill with *The Wizard of Oz*. The Castro has a bunch of great double features coming up, including *Singin' in the Rain* and *An American in Paris* showing on Christmas Day. If you missed its first release, *Boys' Shorts: The New Queer Cinema* re-plays at the UC Theater in Berkeley on Dec. 22. The Roxie checks in from Dec. 25-30 with a documentary about Mother Theresa. No comment. ✿

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How are you getting funding for your own projects?

Loans, credit cards. The funding for *Madonna Mia* is coming from an ITVS grant, but those are becoming more and more difficult to get. Money is very tight all over. Foundations and individuals have less to give, and there is more competition for what is available. The last 12 years of Republican administrations hasn't helped. They were only funding documentaries about George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. I'm sorry, but that's been done already.

Have you ever felt discouraged enough to think of leaving filmmaking?

It has at times been extremely discouraging. It's not just the amount of rejection you get, it's also what you have to give up to do what you do. The amount of sacrifice for Jane and me has been extremely high. You give up a lot of your personal life. The level of stress can be intense. And it takes so many years to get a film done, without any guarantee that it will eventually be seen by anyone. It feels like Sisyphus pushing that rock up the hill. So, you can only hope to get some type of validation along the way in terms of foundations or individuals granting you the money to continue. But when things are hard for such an extended period of time, I do think: "Why am I doing this? This is just exhausting." And I'm relatively young right now, but I don't see how I could continue doing exactly what I'm doing now when I'm into my forties. There's no safety net. You just go day by day. But, I don't want to give up. I have to believe that there are too many important things being left unsaid.

Have you noticed any new trends taking place in lesbian and gay film?

It seems that the work by and about lesbians is becoming more sexually explicit, which is really wonderful. And it's being done with an air of confidence and a sense of humor, which I welcome. With AIDS, the programming by and about gay men has become more reflective and sometimes somber. And the documentaries being done aren't simply a response to the right-wing agenda. We're making films about our dreams and our fantasies and about things that are pertinent to us in our lives and that aren't necessarily meant for mainstream heterosexual viewers. We are creating work for ourselves.

Before we end, is there anything in particular you'd like readers to know?

Their interest in independent media is greatly appreciated, and their support is critical to the future of what we're doing. And please be vocal about it. Just a postcard to PBS or ITVS about a film that you enjoyed makes a huge difference. ✿

Mika Shigematsu. Photo by Lisa Kohler.

classics

BY CHING CHANG

Musical Picks for the Holiday

An easy way to do these holiday concert picks is to watch out for the unusual and and so-called "alternative" musical programming in the season's concerts. A quick check in my mail from concert promoters this month, however, suggests that there may not be such a thing as a traditional Christmas concert in the Bay Area anymore (except maybe for those Pavarotti specials on KQED). From the program by Menage (the octet from SF Lesbian/Gay Chorus) entitled "Holiday Issues" to a dance-it-yourself *Nutcracker*, everyone seems deathly afraid of the ordinary these days. This makes it harder to sort out what's worth investigating, but even so, there is no need to complain. All the more reason to grab your S.O. and go out to hear something fresh.

If you want to hear a group who has pioneered such innovative programming concerts in the Bay Area, try "Musica Sagrada y Profana," a concert of Spanish music "from the cathedrals of Spain to the streets of Puerto Rico," being performed by Sacred and Profane, a fine East Bay-based chamber choir. Under the new directorship of Susan Swerdlow, the choir is joined by guitarist Marc Teicholz as well as a Latin percussion ensemble performing Latin American and Iberian music that spans five centuries. Sacred and Profane performs at the SF Community Music Center (544 Capp St. in SF) Fri., Dec. 17 at 8 pm, and at Berkeley's North Congregational Church (near Walnut Square in Berkeley) on Sunday, Dec. 19 at 4 pm. Tickets are $8-$10. Call (510) 524-3611 for more info.

For early music devotees, the San Francisco Early Music Society puts on a program entitled "In Nova Cantica: A Celebration of Christmas," a concert of medieval carols, chansons and dances from the 13th thru 17th centuries. It features soprano Elisabeth Engan; tenor Neal Rogers; harpist Shira Kammen; Kit Robberson playing vielle; and lutenist Robert Strizich. A festive celebration follows the concert. Sat., Dec. 18 at 8 pm, at Berkeley's First Congregational Church (Durant and Dana St., near Telegraph Ave.) Call SFEMS at (510) 528-1725 for tix and info.

Those who can't let the holidays go by without some camp will surely appreciate the SF Gay Men's Chorus' third concert of the year, entitled "Act III: Big Hair Holiday," Dec. 17 and 18 at 8 pm, and Dec. 19 at 2 pm. This is the Chorus' debut appearance at the new Center for the Arts Theater at the Yerba Buena Gardens. Unlike the somber poignancy of their premiere of "Hidden Legacies" this past summer, this will surely be a light-spirited program, wholesome as the SFGMC will ever get, with musical numbers by Kander & Ebb, and Stein & Sondheim. Call (415) 863-4472 for tix and info.

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(continued on page 57)

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books

Sarah Schulman

by Shar

The *Brooklyn Free Press* calls Sarah Schulman "the quintessential lesbian novelist," and her fifth novel, *Empathy*, is quickly proving just that. Recently released in paperback by Dutton/Plume, *Empathy* is described by *Publisher's Weekly* as a "plainspoken, often funny narrative... about gender roles, sexual orientation, AIDS, homelessness, drugs and the value of an attentive ear." As an activist Schulman helped found Lesbian Avengers. She'll be speaking at A Different Light Bookstore on Dec. 21.

(SF Bay Times) The last time we talked I was interviewing you about the beginnings of the Lesbian Avengers—what's the update?

(Sarah Schulman): We're huge. We have 22 chapters. It's weird because the gay media doesn't cover us, but we're actually very large. It's nice to know that the Avenger network is flexible—wherever something happens we have somebody nearby. We were saying the other day that if we were men, we'd be on the cover of every gay magazine in the country. But that's not the way it is.

What major actions have you done lately?

The major thing was in Lewiston, Maine. The town voted on an anti-gay ballot measure Nov. 2. The national gay organizations are focused on Washington and not enough on the local areas that are fighting the Christian Right. We decided to offer as much assistance as we could. There were only about 12 openly gay people in the whole town, including three out lesbians. They were very suspicious of us at first. That's why the Right picks towns like that, because there aren't enough out gay people to fight them.

We raised a measly $8,000, which is not a lot, but you know lesbians can do a lot on very little. We sent two full-time activists up there and 30 volunteers over a six week period. We did voter registration in the gay bars—we held the first openly gay event. More and more people came out in the town.

That's a really good feeling.

Photo by Julia Scher

We did lose the measure two-to-one. But in the end there was a photo in the *New York Times "Week in Review"* of these people with a sign saying "Lewiston Queers Unite." That was really important work and what we're about—hardcore, real politics, direct action, technical assistance. So that's our most recent project.

Let's go back to your writing. Your most recent book, Empathy, *just came out in paperback. Reading it I noticed how much your writing style has evolved and changed. Where is this coming from? What are your influences?*

When my second book, *Girl Visions and Everything*, was published in 1988, I didn't know any artists or anyone who had written a novel. I was working as a waitress and just discovering what writing really was—discovering the power of putting words together. I had originally been motivated primarily by content, but on my own I was having these discoveries. Then I went to an art colony called MacDowell. It was the first time I'd met artists and the first time anyone called me an artist.

It was a mixed blessing because on the one hand I was being introduced to devices and ideas that were really exciting. I learned that I was writing in a way that I had inherited and not chosen. The shape of a piece can reflect the emotions of the piece and that was something I hadn't realized. On the other hand, I found a group of people who were very self-righteous elitists, who used devices to obscure emotions instead of to reveal them, and that really turned me off. So I kind of set out thinking that I could use those ideas about shape to show deeper emotions in a way that anyone could understand.

I was writing, writing, writing for two years; I didn't know what it was about but I trusted myself. Then the theme of *Empathy* was revealed to me. I had a revelation about what I was writing. I realized I had been writing from my unconscious.

I don't want to ruin the book for those who haven't read it but everyone who has *wants to know—how did you create these two characters?*

I can say this: The book is a dialogue between Doc, who is a street corner psychiatrist, and his patient, Anna O. When I was writing the book, Anna did not exist until the tenth draft. I did about 12 drafts over a three year period. It was only one person, Doc, and suddenly when I had my revelation about what the book was about, I realized it was actually between two people. I divided Doc in half and then created this other character. It took the next two drafts to integrate her.

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Saturday, Dec. 25, 7:30 PM—Max Dashu presents her slide show, **Suppressed Histories: The Afro-Asian Goddess (Canaan/Palestine/Israel/Lebanon/Syria/Arabia/Iraq).** In order to ward off the annual onslaught of christian dominance and sentimental consumerism, we invite you to an evening honoring older spiritual traditions: those of the Asian lands bordering Africa.
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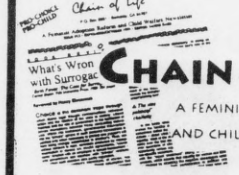

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When I was in high school I saw the movie *Nashville* by Robert Altman. I've seen it 12 or 14 times. What's so amazing about it is that you cannot understand it until you've already seen it, because you can't get what's happening in the beginning. You can still enjoy it on another level, but it's not revealed until the second viewing. I wanted *Empathy* to be like that. My initial idea was to have the book repeat entirely after the ending, but I have a really commercial publisher and they won't do that. But a lot of people told me they've reread it. And once you reread it, it's a completely different book.

That reminds me of Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas. *When most people read it the first time they laugh hysterically, but second or third time you start obsessing over the absurdity of America. I'm wondering if* Empathy *is going to affect me that way.*

Well, good. I'm curious to hear. Hopefully you'll see all the clues.

You incorporate various formats, seemingly to reveal our culture—the plays and the recipes?

I've been writing plays for 13 years, but the recipes—food is so important if you're writing about the American dream. Those *Family Circle* recipes—it's just crucial archival stuff.

These forms helped me get into a lot of stuff about my own identity which I couldn't reach working in one form. For example, seeing your family as a movie, because you're so detached. When lovers argue it's theater. There is a college term paper in which the character uses Freudian analysis to prove that she's a lesbian. I just thought these forms were appropriate to different feelings.

What about your tendency to have a character obsess over a woman?

I think I've outgrown that. Is that still going on?

It is. Less, but still.

It's been two years since *Empathy* came out so it's kind of old, emotionally, for me. What about the tendency to obsess?

What was going on for the years when you were writing about characters obsessing over people?

There are five books, and there are only really two women who are being obsessed on, but in different books they have different names. Doesn't everybody do that? Am I the only one?

No, I don't think they do.

That's one thing that happened when I was writing *After Dolores*. I thought, "Oh no. I'm showing what a horrible person I am. I'm jealous, violent, and a hateful person. Everyone is going to hate me." I published the book—everyone said, "God, I identified so much with your book."

I'm a Libra, so I'm very balanced, but I identified as being the person that was obsessed over.

Really? (Laughs) You mean you identified with Dolores?

No, not with Dolores! But I've been on the opposite end of somebody who's been obsessing.

So what's your insight? What do you offer me?

Life goes on. Get over it. Fix it. Figure it out.

I see.

What are you doing when you come to town? How does the switch from New York to San Francisco affect you?

Well, you have more room for feelings. I always have a little breakdown when I get here, because I work all the time and I don't have a lot of feelings. When I go to San Francisco, I usually spend a week crying. I have fun. No. It's good.

Is your girlfriend coming with you?

Yes, she's coming. We already made our massage appointments. ✿

Coming up for Sarah Schulman: May 1994 from Routledge, My American History: Lesbian and Gay Life During the Reagan/Bush Years, *covering Reagan's inauguration through the rise of the Right, abortion debate, sex wars, AIDS and underground events like lip-synching in lesbian bars, the last bar raid in New York in 1983, as well as community strategies and tactics.*

1995—Fiction: Rat Bohemia.

Plus, check out her three one-act plays running in New York this spring, scheduled to end June 20 (for those arriving early for the Gay Games).

the leather chronicles

by st. clair adams

The Ins and Outs of "What Are You Into?"

Santa's Slave Auction revelers. Photo by St. Clair.

I hate the question, What are you into? In asking myself why this question bothers me so much, I realized that asking or answering these types of questions limits our sexual possibilities.

It may eliminate altogether certain people you really want to do the wild thing with. Some people have such tunnel vision when it comes to sex that they may choose to pass up an offer because they think they'll be expected to do things they're not into.

Sometimes knowing what the other person is into can be very important. If your intended partner is into heavy, rough sex and you're not, you may end up getting into something that's uncomfortable and a bad experience. If you know that a particular person is into heavy activities, and you would like to be sexual without playing heavy — ask! The worst thing that can happen is that you hear, "No, thanks."

Likewise, if you are into heavy sex and the person that you want to have sex with is not, consider trying something new. You might end up having a good time with that partner on an unexpected level.

With those thoughts in mind I feel it's the responsibility of the person into the heavier activities to inform the other partner if he only wants to have S/M sex. Negotiation is appropriate. But once you reach an agreement, keep your partner's limits in mind.

Sometimes we limit ourselves to what we're used to, because we're afraid of the unknown. But the unknown can be very exciting in itself.

I'm torn between my dislike of being asked and my occasional need to ask a potential partner. I don't like having this double-standard. Thinking long and hard, I now feel that I need to ease up on both sides. I've come to the conclusion that if a conversation with my date leads me to doubt our compatibility, I will ask. And if I am asked, I'll answer with limited possibilities, but state, "There are things you'll find out at a later time."

Two people exploring fantasies together is a spiritual experience and should be a lasting one. But writing out the play before you act will most often end up in a limited show with a premature end. Live for the experience—living from your heart, not your head.

SERENA'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Well, Serena (Ms. Cheeks and Chaps Int'l '92) is another year older. Still kickin' after passing the ripe old age of 36, she had a party in celebration of her birthday at the Bear on Castro, which she manages. Entertainment was provided by two live bands, the Cooties and Random Violet, and the proceeds of the party were donated to the Bear's softball team. Happy Birthday Serena!

SAN JOSE CHRISTMAS

Hope Nechuta (Ms. Leather Masters San Jose '94) and Jeff Tucker (Mr. San Jose Leather '94) put on a fun party at Greg's Ball Room on Dec. 10. Aside from the beer bust, they sold Christmas chocolates shaped like penises, pussies, and breasts. The additional proceeds from the raffle (two tickets to see Bette Midler in concert) raised the total take to nearly $400, which was donated to the Aris Project. A wide variety of people were present, having a great time, and of course partygoers could choose between having their picture taken with or getting spanked by the real live Santa. I am sure you will be seeing a lot more of Jeff and Hope.

SANTA'S SLAVE AUCTION

Randy and Beth have done it again! Randy Wright (Mr. Alameda Co. Leather '93) and Beth Elliott (Ms. Alameda Co. Leather '93) have been working their butts off since they got their titles. They have demonstrated the same great energy as their Mom and Dad title holders (Lil Copper and Mark Makee). All of the slaves donated their labors and deserve a big thank you. The event included Santa as emcee, two wonderful country singers, a beer bust, a 50/50 raffle, and slaves, slaves, and more slaves. The total from the auction and raffle came to $1,400—that money is headed for the Godfather Fund East Bay.

While I don't have confirmation on this, I hear they received a last minute call from someone who donated $2,000 to the cause. Sounds so good I hope it's true. Keep up the good work guys.

COMING UP!

Golden State Peace Officers: This group is sometimes known as Pigs in Paradise. These studs and studettes are working hard to keep our world a little safer. They have put on some really kicky parties in the past, and I am sure this will be no different. Come and support them at a beer/soda bust at the Eagle on Sunday, Dec. 19, starting at 3 pm. If you talk dirty, you may get one of them to arrest you!

Mr. Marcus Rides Again: On Saturday, Dec. 18th, Mr. Marcus is throwing a fundraiser for Henri Ten Have's (IML '93) travel fund. Mr. Marcus has supported the community for so many years, it's certainly about time we returned a little. The $8 beer bust runs from 8 to 11 pm at the Eagle. Marcus has been busy gathering some good-looking prizes for a raffle. First prize is 150 new T-shirts; second is an Eagle leather vest; third is two weekend packages to IML '94; fourth is two one-year subscriptions to *Drummer* magazine; and fifth is a collection of ten Falcon Videos. Graylin Thornton (Int'l Mr. Drummer) is preparing all the food. Lenny Broberg (IML '92) and Blair (IMsL '92) team up again as co-emcees.

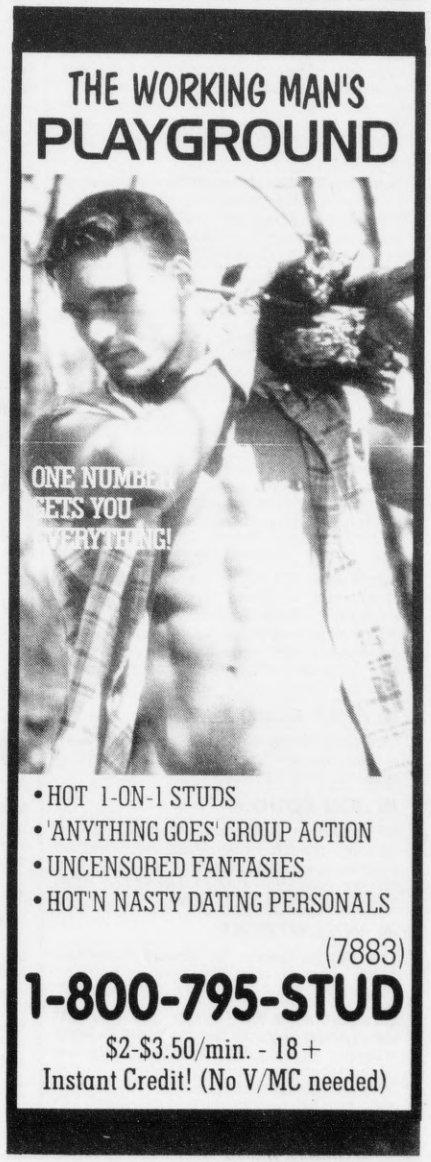
It is not cheap flying all over the world to show off that beautiful body Henri has, so let's show Mr. Marcus and Henri that we can be there for them.

Silver & Black Party: Greg's Ball Room is having a New Year's Party. There will be a buffet, hats, noisemakers, midnight champagne toast and friends. So if you are in the South Bay for the last day of the year, stop by. Also, if you don't have any plans for Christmas Day, Greg's is having Christmas dinner at 7 pm.

SLUG: The South Bay Leather and Uniform Group is alive and well. They have been good elves this year, collecting a pickup full of toys for the Children's Shelter of Santa Clara. I would like to offer my congratulations to the group for hanging in there though rough times and coming out of the ashes in an energetic mode.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in SF: As you all know, every bar has parties for Christmas and New Year's Eve. I wish I could make them all, but that's not possible. So, choose your favorite bar (or bars) and don't plan on taking a cab—you'll be waiting for one all night. Go with friends, have a designated driver and be safe and sane.

Have a good time wherever you are, and I hope that I get to see all of you somewhere during the holidays. If I miss you, have a great holiday season. ✿



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The San Francisco Sheet Metal Local Union 104 Joint Apprenticeship Commitee is accepting applications for the Apprenticeship Training Program on a continuing year-round basis. Applications may be completed on the first Tuesday of each month (excluding holidays) from 8:30 am to 11:30 am at the SF Sheet Metal Workers Local Union 104 Training Center, 1939 Market St, SF CA. Applicants must be at least 17 years of age and have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Proof must be presented at the time of application. All applicants shall be required at time of dispatch to have a valid California Driver's License with no major citations. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Sheet Metal Workers Local Union 104 Training Fund, (415) 431-1676.

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Inner Sunset, an organic food collective, is accepting applications until Dec. 20. Women/people of color/queers/older people strongly encouraged to apply. Apply in person: 1319 20th Ave nr Irving.

Collaborative of lesbian/gay youth-serving agencies seeks Project Coordinator to manage scattered-site job training program for youth under 18. Requires extremely organized, lesbian/gay/bi sensitive individual with management skills. Job training experience a plus. Resumes by 12/20: Program Director, CUAV, 973 Market St, Suite 500, SF 94103. No calls.

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■ JOB SOUGHT

SF Sublet or Subletting Position wanted: January, possibly longer. Responsible lesbian writer escaping East Coast winter. Local refs. Can do pet care, etc. Call Louise Rafkin (508) 349-1658 or leave message at (415) 282-1959.

■ VOLUNTEERS

The Pacific Center for Sexual Minorities needs volunteers especially during the holidays. Please contact Reilly or James at (510) 548-8283.

Be a part of the first lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender and questioning Youth Talkline in the Bay Area. Young people 23 and under are needed to staff the lines, and volunteers of all ages are needed to provide support. People of color, bilingual people, transgender people and people with HIV and AIDS are especially encouraged to get involved. Call LYRIC, the Lavender Youth Recreation & Information Center at (415) 703-6150 ext 4 for more information.

Volunteers Needed: Support for **Women with Cancer** at Highland Hospital. Multilingual, women of color especially needed. Info: 548-WCRC.

Growing nonprofit national les/bi/gay youth newsmagazine desperately seeking volunteers to help with fundraising, nat'l PR, mailings, administrative. If you've some extra time on your hands, we sure could use your help! Leave a message at 985-5243.

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European Community Gay Spaniard, 37 yrs old, interested in marriage of mutual benefit with US citizen. Ole! Reply BT Box AG902A.

Lesbian couple, US American and German, 30's, seeks gay couple in similar situation. PO Box 5174, Berkeley CA 94507.

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1-800-R GAY BED. Remember this number!! It's the only one you will need the next time you are searching for accommodations. One **free** call and you'll be lodging anywhere in the world you desire. **R GAY BED** gives you needed information by **FAX** or will be mailed to you absolutely **free!** Paid for by participating accommodation owners. For membership information please call or fax (310) 941-7448.

■ VACATION RENTAL

Sallie & Eileen's Place, vacation cabins for women. Mendocino (707) 937-2028.

Russian River House. 4 bedrooms, on the river, private beach, 1 acre fenced yard, fireplace. $750/week, $300/weekend. 282-1109.

Russian River Getaway in the Redwoods. 2 bedroom, bath, living room, dining area, full kitchen, decks. 1 mile west of Guerneville. $150 weekend, $300 week. (415) 566-5451.

Lesbian Paradise! With 20 charming rooms. 100 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, peace & privacy, we're your perfect vacation choice year round! Highlands Inn, Box 118 CU, Bethlehem, NH 03574. (603) 869-3978.

Mendocino Coast Vacation Cabin for Women: Bellflower (707) 937-0783. $55.

Wildflower Ridge. Secluded cabin for women. 3 miles to ocean, near Mendocino. Kitchen. $55/night. (510) 735-2079.

Holly's Place Autumn $pecial: 10-25 percent off now thru Dec 16. Beautiful Tahoe women's resort, cozy cabins, fireplaces, lofts, kitchenettes, videos, hot tub & more. Reservations 1 (800) 745-7041.

Russian River vacation rental. Call Dave (415) 861-2394 for details.

Russian River. New cottage near Armstrong Woods. Affordable rates. (707) 869-1146.

The Langtry Women's B&B. Nice rooms, hot tub, deck. Free coffee & breakfast. Walking distance to Castro. Weekly, monthly rates. (415) 863-0538.

Mendocino Coast Panoramic ocean view home. Very private, on 11 acres, available Jan/Feb 1994. 3BD/2BA, furnished, beautiful. Ideal for wkend getaways, personal retreats. $500/week, $1200/month. (707) 884-1188.

Plan Your Getaway Now! Friday, Saturday and Sunday, $55. That's it. Sorry, we didn't mean to startle you. We just thought you might need to get away. It also occurred to us that you might not want to spend a fortune. That's why **Saratoga Springs Resort** is making this special offer. **Women's Space** is offered at this rate on the first weekend of every month, and **Men's Space** is scheduled for the third weekend of each month. We require no advance deposit. We're less than three hours from San Francisco in beautiful Lake County. For **space** reservations, information or a free brochure call 1-(800) 655-7153. There's no need to panic, but a rate this low can't last forever.

Mendocino Coast: Jan-April. Beautiful hm. 2BD/2BA on 3½ acres. Frpl, wd stove, decks, private. Near Mendocino/Fort Bragg. (707) 961-1092.

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(415) 863-0538
exp. Feb. 28, 1994 • One coupon per night

■ REAL ESTATE

Grand Victorian. Eighteen trees, lavish gardens, fireplaces, antique wood interiors. Three bedrooms upstairs, two down. Vallejo's Heritage District. $189,000. Laurie Nesci (707) 552-6661, (707) 643-8903.

■ BUSINESS RENTAL

Therapists or other quiet professionals. Three spaces. Grand Avenue area. $425. (510) 532-4634.

■ ROOMS FOR RENT

Ambassador Hotel: 55 Mason Street, SF. 441-4188. $82 wk/up. $20 nightly.

The Langtry Women's B&B. San Francisco Victorian house. Beautiful rooms. Hot tub, deck. Free coffee & breakfast. Weekly, monthly rates. Walking distance to Castro. (415) 863-0538.

Wanted: Female to rent bedroom. Home in Tracy. Full house privileges, private bath. Must like animals. $300/mo including utitilities. Call Shane/Toni (209) 835-2964.

■ SUBLET WANTED

SF Sublet or Housesitting position wanted: January, possibly longer. Responsible lesbian writer escaping East Coast winter. Local refs. Can do pet care, etc. Call Louise Rafkin (508) 349-1658 or leave message at (415) 282-1959.

■ APT FOR RENT

Spacious East Bay Condo in quiet Pleasant Hill neighborhood. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, single level, gourmet kitchen, w/d, fireplace, deck, a/c, garage, 1400 ft. $1050/mo. (510) 676-9498.

$725. One bedroom with formal dining room in beautiful restored turn of the century luxury building. Charming garden courtyard, original hardwood floors and woodwork, French doors, high security. Owner lives on premises. Convenient transportation. A home to be proud of! Available around December 1. (510) 465-0182.

Castro Victorian. 5-room flat, 1 car parking, fireplace, eat-in kitchen, washer/dryer, garden. 1 cat OK. $1200. 552-9936.

Bernal Hill Studio. Separate kitchen, carpet, blinds, safe/secure. Util included. Cat OK. $550/mo. Avail 1/1/94. 647-5759.

■ APT TO SHARE

Easygoing, flexible, considerate bi-dyke seeks female roommate for terrific SF apartment. Safe, pleasant, quiet neighborhood (inner Richmond District), nr laundry, supermarkets, many bus lines; walk to Haight St & Clement St, 1 block from GG Park. High ceilings, hardwood floors, beautiful woodwork, comfortable, roomy & light. I'm friendly & polite, but like privacy & will respect yours. Don't smoke but don't care if you do. Cat great if it gets along with mine. Please be bi-positive, S/M-positive, cat-positive, stable, willing to stay at least 1 year. $390/month (1st, last & deposit) plus ½ utilities. Avail now. Greta, (415) 668-2824.

Room available Jan. 1 in lower Pacific Heights. $345/month. Nice old Victorian; great, safe neighborhood, good parking, lots of buses. Pets OK; we have a cool dog. No drugs; drinking and smoking OK. Calm, easygoing household. Please be gainfully employed and bigotry-free. $645-ish to move in. Doorless studio off kitchen comes with room for $30/month extra. Call 776-0496. Yee-haw.

Friendly, mature, stable meat-eating Star Trek-loving dyke seeks 2 similar (or tolerant) dykes to share my newly rented house near Bernal Heights Top. Yard, garage, fireplace, W/D, xtra loft. Pets negot. Small BR $400, medium BR $445. First, last, security. Available 12/1. Marie 974-8985 days. 648-3148 after 11/25.

Creative, spiritual, political dyke looking for warm, friendly, communicative and down-to-earth female roommate to share sunny Mission flat. $450 for both a bright bedroom w/large bay window and a small office space. Must be cat-positive (I've got two sweet tabbies) but pet-less. Available Jan 1st or sooner. 647-9061.

Dyke Seeks Housemate. Looking to share my cozy, two-bedroom Castro flat by January 1st. Gorgeous views, sunny, clean, prime location. $470/mo, move in is 1st/last/$100 deposit. I'm a financially secure sex worker dyke and would like to live with a queer-positive, financially responsible flatmate. Faeries, activists encouraged. No big hair, Republicans or S/M-phobes please. Call 861-0676, leave message.

Mill Valley 2-bedroom to share with other dyke. $412.50 a month, available now. (415) 383-2636.

Huge Loft! Huge loft with skylight in fabulous house. Bernal Heights. View, yard, W/D, fireplace. 2 lesbians seek 3rd to share this space. You must climb a ladder to get to your room. Rent $430 plus first, last, sec. No smoke, drugs. Light alcohol okay. 648-3148.

■ HOUSE TO SHARE

Seeking lesbian roommate, large house, 2 private rooms, Balboa Park area, $480/mo. Have cat. Sandy 585-6542.

Lesbian wanted to share house in San Bruno. W/D, fireplace, balcony, backyard, storage, no pets/smoke. $400 plus ¼ utilities. (415) 873-8983.

Room in Sunset house. 2 lesbians seek third. Secluded large room, private bath, ocean view, yard and more. No alcohol or drugs. Pet negotiable. Avail Dec 1. $433 plus ⅓ utilities. 753-6346.

Lesbian wanted to share lovely 2 BR house in Dimond Dist of Oakl. Fireplace, W/D, yard. N/S, N/D, light alcohol OK. Cat OK. $500/less if you like yard work. (510) 530-1402.

Lesbian seeks tidy but easygoing lesbian household in Albany bungalow. $447.50 plus utilities. Available Dec 15. No pets. Small bedroom, small office, garage space. (510) 525-9157.

Share four room home, nonsmoker, male; 4 blocks from Richmond BART. (510) 233-9227 for details.

Clean/Sober Latina Lesbian seeks housemate. Large/sunny house in Oakland. Lvng/dining rm, yard, washer/dryer. Pets neg. No smoke in house. $315/mo plus ½ util. (510) 261-2077.

Seeking gay man to share 2 bedroom house w/lesbian in Kentfield, Marin. Hot tub, W/D, hardwood floors, fireplace. Close to commuter bus. $425 mo, incl util, cable. Available Jan 1st. (415) 459-1627.

■ COUNSELING & THERAPY

Lesbians in Crisis. Insurance accepted, sliding scale. Older, caring lesbian therapist. Brief or long-term issues of relationship, anxiety, addiction, and personal growth. Bonnie Crosse, MFCC, EdD, EMD/R Certified. Oakland. (510) 569-1258.

Transsexuals, Transvestites & Androgynes. Experienced and supportive counseling, resources, etc. Gianna E. Israel, (415) 558-8058.

Steady, Caring Lesbian therapist; familiar with issues of grief, life transitions, relationships, substance abuse and recovery. Mary Butler, MFCC (510) 601-6445. SS $40-$70.

Chana Wilson, MFCC (MFC#28819). Supportive and in-depth therapy for individuals and couples: relationships; grief; life transitions; recovery from childhood abuse, addictions, and codependency; enhancing self-esteem and creativity. SF and Oakland. Insurance accepted. (510) 654-7560.

Feminist Therapist: Through a down-to-earth approach in a supportive atmosphere, I offer short-term and in-depth counseling to individuals and couples. Sliding scale, insurance. East Bay. **Barbara Kaimowitz, MFCC**. (510) 527-2388.

SF Financial District-Psychotherapy for Individuals and Couples. Addressing anxiety, stress, depression, lack of meaning, career, co-dependence, drug/alcohol use, eating problems, AIDS, loss, sexuality, intimacy. Marilyn Girard, MFCC; 13 years experience. Insurance, sliding scale. SF and Berkeley. (510) 843-2998.

Now Is The Time... to talk to someone to help you make changes in your life. Supportive psychotherapy for self-empowerment for lesbians and gays with stress, relationship, family, recovery, co-dependency, abuse, HIV or sexuality issues. Castro area. **Licensed Psychologist** (PSY 10607). **Diane Gray, PhD. 863-8300**.

Low self-esteem, loneliness, relationship problems. Intensive psychotherapy can heal wounds and change life patterns. San Francisco and Oakland. **Mary Paige**, MFCC (MFC 28004). (415) 337-7005.

Feminist Therapy Referral Project has been providing careful, confidential therapy referrals to East Bay women therapists since 1971. Sliding scale, insurance. Please call for an appointment. (510) 843-2949.

Good therapy builds toward your authenticity, relatedness and strength, helps understand how **self and others** are both **sources** of problems and **resources** for well-being. Brief counseling, crisis help, mediations and long-range in-depth work offered to individuals and couples by well-aged, perceptive former educator, with wide-ranging life experience, 18 years as counselor. Methods custom-tailored to your concerns. Am smart, flexible, intuitive, antiracist, well-respected. Love my work, maintain deliberately non-specializing practice. Upper Glen Park (SF), parking. Occasional group openings. Fees negotiable. **Jeanne Adleman**, MA. **(415) 585-0666**.

Feeling overwhelmed? Missing your life? **Marjory Nelson, PhD,** is a compassionate, intuitive **hypnotherapist** with broad experience & a sense of humor. Sliding scale. 647-2845.

Cut Through Lesbian Drama. If you want some clarity and help around sexuality, merging, monogamy, power, self-esteem and incest stuff; if you're fed up with 12-step jargon and want a fresh perspective; if you're ready to get down to the shadow stuff and wrestle w/the demons, call Renee Chinquapin, MA Psych., $50/hr. (510) 841-2101.

Stuck? ... in your life? ... on your path? **EMDR** Eye Movement Desensitization/Reprocessing is a potentially brief, deeply felt therapy for post-traumatic stress. A true therapy breakthrough. Information: Linda Wilson, MFCC (510) 536-3329.

Renee Gosselin, MFCCI #IMF20985. Experienced feminist psychotherapist. I specialize in working with women whose issues include: childhood trauma, depression, grief, intimacy. Special interest in lesbian couples counseling. Sliding scale, evening. Saturday hours. East Bay location, ½ block from Rockridge BART. (510) 452-4941. Supervisor, Robin Brooks, LCSW #LCS11833.

Juliet Dantin, PhD Licensed Psychologist PSY9250 **(415) 323-4056**. Experienced, caring therapist who believes each person has her/his own power and inner voice of wisdom. San Francisco and Palo Alto.

Life's Transitions (anxiety-action). Psychotherapy: One resource for examining life's choices and changes. Experienced licensed psychotherapist. **Lawrence Foster, MFCC** (licensed marriage family child counselor). (415) 621-8095.

Supportive Counseling & Problem-Solving for people living with HIV & other health problems; gay, bisexual or women's issues. Counselor/nurse with medical expertise in HIV and other health issues as well as extensive counseling experience. Creative support for building successful non-traditional and/or non-monogamous relationships. New strategies for activists facing burnout. Berkeley, near BART. Kathy Labriola (510) 464-4652.

Focusing links your conscious mind with the pain before words, the knowledge before words. You contact problems as they sit concretely in

your body and can employ this self-help skill daily to change your life. I have a decade's experience in Focusing training and in-depth psychotherapy, and have appeared on radio and TV (Oprah Winfrey, Lesbian Couples). Specialties: incest, inner child, 12-Step, mind/body healing, expressive and artistic therapy work, spirituality. Sliding scale. **Judy Schavrien, PhD**, MFCC (#28080). (415) 550-VIEW.

Therapist Shopping Tip #1: "My last therapist was like a stone wall, she never smiled or laughed." You are seen and heard by a caring, warm, professional. Working with: artists/writers & creativity issues, grief and loss, love/sex addiction, coming out, midlife transitions. Suzanne R. Fried, MFCC (MFC 28412). (415) 386-6136.

Hypnotherapy can really help. Free consultation. Janell Moon, CHT. 863-1936. 19th & Church.

Interactive Therapist: My clients say they feel comfortable with me. That my warm and down to earth style helps them feel safe. That I listen well and provide encouraging feedback. They like that I'm experienced, licensed, and like them.

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gay. Offering short-term or in-depth therapy. Convenient Castro location. Free first session. Scott Eaton, MFCC (#MFC23906). (415) 648-6365.

Bisexuality: Explore issues around identity, coming out, relationships, ACA, co-dependency, incest, grief and transitions. Sliding scale. Linda-Sue Edwards, MFCC (MLO 21917). 661-8252.

Therapy can help redefine problems, creating opportunities to add depth and meaning to life. Gentle, safe, supportive approach to address your needs. Low fee. Shannon Smith, MA, MFCC Intern #IMF 23097 (Supervisor, Virginia Stafford, MFCC. Lic #MFC 24668). (415) 995-9557.

Individual & Group Therapy: Deep, spiritually based, specializing in abuse, esteem, mind-body healing, sex workers. Carole Morton, MA at 621-5683.

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- Referral to experienced therapists who value & respect your inner world.
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Choose a therapist whose broad experience, warmth, directness, reliability, humor and responsiveness to your particular needs and style can help create the safety and trust needed for effective therapy. Individuals, couples. Affordable. **Carla Durkin, MFCC**. 255-6394. Noe Valley.

Low Self-Esteem, loneliness, relationship problems. Intensive psychotherapy can healp heal wounds and change life patterns. San Francisco and Oakland. Call **Mary Paige,** MFCC (#MFC28004) (415) 337-7005.

Supportive, experienced therapist, sensitive to struggles with self-esteem, depression, coming out, ACA issues, relationship and career crises. Individuals and couples. Jane Mountcastle, MFCC (#30441). Near BART (510) 273-9013.

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■ THERAPY/SUPPORT GROUPS

Bisexuality. Ongoing bisexual men's support group. Individual & couple counseling also available. Ron Fox, PhD, MFCC (License #MFC22194). (415) 751-6714.

Gay Men's Therapy: Ongoing group to address quality-of-life issues, self-esteem, relationships, fear of intimacy, depression, AIDS anxiety, internalized homophobia, codependency and other issues. Sliding scale/insur. Info: John Beeman, MA, MFCC (lic. MFC23838). 626-6196.

Ongoing Therapy Group for Gay Men from Dysfunctional Families. Call Dan Joy, LCSW (415) 621-5986 or Scott Madover, PhD (415) 863-4806 for more information.

Pursuing Pleasure
A Women's Group

"Only if therapy restores the individual's ability to reach out for pleasure will it be effective in overcoming the depressive tendency."
- Alexander Lowen

The experience of pleasure opens the heart & promotes self love & acceptance.
This group will:
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Lesbian Therapy Group: Make life-affirming changes by reducing isolation, lowering stress and unlearning old patterns. Tuesday or Thursday, 6 pm. Castro. Experienced Licensed Psychologist (PSY 10607). **Diane Gray, PhD 863-8300**

Lesbian Therapy Group. Recovering from emotional isolation, relationship difficulties, low self-esteem, and depression are some of the issues addressed in a supportive setting. Small committed group. Experienced therapist. Individual and couple therapy also offered. San Francisco. Call Zona Gregory, MFCC at 552-9388.

Women's Dreamgroup: A safe place to explore the meaning and magic of your dreams. The vision and power of dreams can help make your waking life more real, vibrant, creative. A time to be playful, courageous, connected. Betsy Ferber, MA, MFCC. Call (510) 464-3098. (Lic #MF23920).

Lesbians of Color Therapy Group. A multicultural, multi-racial group for women from dysfunctional families. Support & healing in a safe & caring environment. Empowerment in a dysfunctional world. Se habla Espanol. Also individual & couples counseling. **Micaela Lovett, MFCC,** 566-9665.

Living Solo—New group forming for single women who want to redefine being solitary as a time to deepen their inner life and change ways of relating to self. Call for info: **Sybil Meyer, (510) 658-0636.**

Lesbians close to or age **50 and over**. Ongoing support/problem-solving/therapy group has two openings starting January. **Jeanne Adleman. (415) 585-0666**. (See ad in Counseling/Therapy column.)

Two Groups: 1) Gay Men Together—Encouragement. Closeness. Acceptance. Understanding. Comfort. Optimism. 2) Writers (and would-be writers)—Use journals, dreams, autobiography to rework life stories. (415) 252-9085.

Coming Out Group for lesbians. Confidential, non-judgmental space to explore your genuine sexual identity; discuss whether, when and how to tell others; begin to find a supportive community. Starts January 1994. 12 weeks. $25/week. Limit 6 members. **Jeanne Courtney, MFCC (510) 428-2029**.

■ RELATIONSHIP ISSUES/ COUPLES THERAPY

Building Intimacy: A Male Couples' Group

- Improve Communication
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Beyond Breaking Up. A group for lesbians on ending relationships and rebuilding one's life. $25/session. For more info call Mary Butler, MFCC (510) 601-6445.

Couples Counseling can help with jealousy, anger, affairs, boundaries, sexuality, commitment, separations and homophobia. Experienced therapist can help you to understand yourselves and each other, repair wounds, and move on to new ways of relating. Susan Berger, MFCC, (415) 751-6515. EB/SF. Calls returned promptly.

Relationship Therapy for lesbian and gay couples who find themselves at an impasse with a particular issue, encumbered by lingering discord, or with heartache about drifting apart. **Kathy Glaser, MFCC**. 922-8812.

Robin Brooks, LCSW, offers lesbian couples counseling that is interactive, pragmatic and challenging. This work is for women wanting deeper levels of intimacy in their relationships, and for those willing to explore ways of relating based on personal authenticity and empathy. Over 13 years experience in psychotherapy including work as clinical supervisor and case consultant. Office ½ block from Rockridge BART. (510) 636-0448.

■ RECOVERY ADDICTION/ SUPPORT GROUP

Adult Daughters of Alcoholics ACA Group. New group forming. The focus will be on your family of origin, and how your role within the family has prevented you from making the changes in your life that you had hoped for. SF and East Bay locations. Call: Randi Hepner, MFCC, at (510) 601-6262. Individual therapy also available. **Insurance accepted.**

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One Day Intensive Workshop
Sat Jan 22 10:am to 4:pm $35
Call for reservations:
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■ INCEST/BATTERY THERAPY/SUPPORT GROUPS

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A safe place to explore the effects of being sexually abused by a family member or other trusted person.
Begin to heal with others who have had similar experiences.
GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL OPENINGS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE
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■ WORKSHOPS/CLASSES

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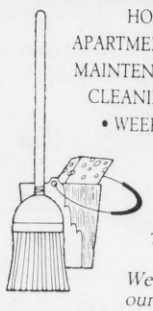

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Classics...

(continued from page 51)

fessional male choir in the country) makes a home stop after concerts in Canada to sing in its annual Christmas concert, which will feature eighth century Gregorian chants, medieval French and English hymns, as well as motets by Palestrina, Josquin de Prez, Lassus and William Byrd. They will also perform Biebl's *Ave Maria*, William Billings, traditional Provencal and Catalan music, as well as Czech and Bavarian music. Of course, they will close with the obligatory spirituals. There are only two SF performances this year, at the St. Ignatius Church (Fulton and Parker, near the USF campus) on Saturday, Dec. 18 at 8 pm and Sunday, Dec. 19 at 7 pm. Concerts are expected to sell out, so call early the City Box Office at 392-4400 for tix.

MIKA SHIGEMATSU OPENS SCHWABACHER RECITAL SERIES

The Vorpal Gallery is one of those places in the Civic Center that everyone seems to know about, but no one remembers where it is or whether they have ever been there. Hidden from more obvious view by the area's more glittering dinosaurs and overlooked by people trying to find a parking space on their way to an overpriced dinner, the Vorpal's unimposing entrance hides 20,000 square feet of exhibition space, and several multipurpose rooms. Last weekend, one of these rooms was cozily used in the local recital debut of mezzo-soprano Mika Shigematsu, a young Japanese singer who won the Poetz Award from the Merola Opera training program this past summer. Appearing as the first of the four recitalists in this year's Schwabacher Debut Recital series, Shigematsu offered a full length vocal recital in splendorous vocalism, in a mixed repertoire program of Handel, Caldara, Scarlatti, Ravel, Wolf and Rossini, plus songs by Joaquin Turina and Yoshinao Nakata for a taste of the unusual.

Mika Shigematsu is a rich, resonant mezzo with firm top notes, which allows her to attempt certain dramatic soprano roles such as Elvira from *I Puritani*. Her instrument is very agile, somewhat darker than Cecilia Bartoli's, and probably with a bit more volume too. Her most obvious vocal weakness is her low range, which thins out rather noticeably at times, but, in her early thirties, she is overall an enormously promising artist. After her successful appearance as Elvira in *I Puritani* with the Boston Lyric Opera (she is scheduled to return next year to sing Rosina in the Barber), she is well equipped to take on a major career.

Accompanied by pianist Masahiro Sato, she opened the program with aria antiche selections, familiar standbys by Handel and Scarlatti, and even Caldara's hauntingly simple "Sebben crudele," a song which is usually shoved down the throat of first-year voice students. She then sang Ravel's "Cinq Melodies Populaires Grecques" (performed by Jessye Norman earlier this year at the Opera), and closed the first half with a set of lieder by Wolf, including the emotionally sweeping "Kennst du das Land," on Goethe's text. After intermission, she returned with Rossini's theatrical "La Regata Veneziana," a repertoire favorite of many a mezzo, before delivering a short cycle by Japanese composer Yoshinao Nakata and the closing set of Spanish songs by Joaquin Turina. The more relaxed and natural posturing in the Nakata songs seemed to indicate that she was in fact less comfortable with the previous offerings in the program. At times her German and Italian hinted at lines learned phonetically and made acceptable only with a finely tuned interpretive sense.

Minor quibbles aside, Shigematsu's performance did sound like that of a singer who had overgrown small, subsidized recitals; no one would have felt cheated had they paid fifty dollars to hear the same recital at the Herbst, for instance. But all in all, this second floor room at Vorpal provided an ideal place to hear a lyric singer in a song recital: a chamber sized space, not dry or excessively live, with room for an audience of 200 or so art song enthusiasts. Undoubtedly, the cheerful James Schwabacher had this sort of environment in mind when he endowed this recital series into perpetuity some 11 years ago. Since then, several alumni (among them Kevin Langan, Debora Voigt, Cheryl Parrish, Thomas Hampson) have gone on to greater things. These recitals were likely the last time most of us would have heard some of these voices in such satisfyingly intimate conditions.

Scheduled to appear next in the series are Malaysian tenor David Qua (he will sing Tippet's *Boyhood End*), mezzo Catherine Cook (currently doing a musical theater stint in the *Phantom of the Opera*), and baritone Hector Vasquez. At $12 per seat, this has got to be one of the best values in town for your erudite dollar. Call 565-6434 for info. ✿

the personals

WOMEN

Do You Fit My Stocking?!
Dear Santa: I am a GBF, 45, incurably romantic, loving, mature, child-like, stubborn, independent, emotionally stable, humorous and more. My favorite things: creative writing, Star Trek, singing, music, reincarnation (I'm a big believer), poetry, traveling... I am seeking a loving, understanding woman, 40-60, who is interested in me, not my living or financial status! Friendship first is a must. Please, Santa, I've been extra good this year! Reply BT Box DC1B or call ★★2643.

Quality Female Dominant
Has opening for attractive female submissive who can cook, clean and help with my desires. Must have good attitude and hold a job. Privacy assured. 28-40, bi only. Reply BT Box DC2B or call ★★2644.

A Very Striking Woman
That's what my friends say, what are friends for? I'm a healthy 40 y.o. nonsmoker, 5'8", 140 lbs., blonde, brown-eyed, athletic type and lift regularly. I'm looking to meet new friends to do fun, healthy things with. Backpacking in Hawaii & the Sierra's, x-country skiing, working out together and, yes, maybe even walks along the beach, did I say that? If you are able to communicate, laugh and enjoy life, please respond. All calls will be answered. Call ★★2645.

Two Hearts
I'm sweet, kind and very loving; I'm feminine, petite and attractive-looking with imagination, smarts and ethics. These are just some of my qualities. Some of my interests are listening to music, dancing, dining out, traveling on vacation, hiking, camping, reading, and going to the movies. Seeking single, GWF, feminine, neat and clean-looking, good hygiene, and likes to dress up occasionally. Please be nice, sweet, kind, thoughtful, honest, considerate, gentle, understanding and compassionate. I would like you to be sexual, loving, truthful, positive, communicative, and not afraid of a long-term relationship as I am. Please also be drug-free, nonsmoker, steadily employed, and financially stable, ages 38-45. Light alcohol OK. I hope we become Two Hearts. Call ★★2646.

Sick Of The Games Women Play
I need a woman who lets "Yes" mean "Yes" and "No" mean "No"; a woman who knows how she feels and will say so; a woman who has a life and doesn't need to merge into mine. I'm looking for a mature African-American woman who is worthy of a good-looking, hard-working, good-loving woman like me. While I like feminine women, submissive in bed, no queens need apply as I will not be a jester in your court. Call ★★2647.

Recovering Brownie Scout
"One is silver, the other gold." The second line is: "Make new friends, but keep the old." That's what I'd like: some new ones. Are you early-40s, fun and funny, like the usual stuff, especially melted chocolate marshmallows and graham crackers? Me too. Call for more details. Call ★★2648.

Holiday Sweetheart
Need a date for the office Xmas party or lesbian/gay holiday gatherings or someone to impress your mom or how about a companion while your friends are away? I'm well-traveled, educated, can converse in English, talk about investments, computers, foreign countries, economy, education, films, health issues, lesbian/gay issues, philosophy and just about anything. If you are 39-49, non-butch, affectionate, compassionate and can laugh at my jokes, please call ★★2649.

To My Bostonian Top
It's taken me several months to realize how important you are to me. You've brought joy to my life and a certain amount of stability that I haven't had in a very long time. I really do love and want to have you in my life no matter how much gray hair or older you may get. —Your West Coast Bottom. Call ★★2650.

Watch Out For... The Babe Trap...
We have organized a group of single women that are attractive lesbians in their 30s to 40s, well-balanced, healthy-minded and bodied, growth- and goal-oriented, creative, socially conscious, adventurous and we passionately enjoy life! We print a monthly calendar; if you want a copy call us or write. Reply BT Box DC3B or call ★★2651.

Political And Athletic
Does this combination exist? I'm not talking extremes, just consciousness and willingness to do something about it. I'm 30, fit, considered cute and androgynous by friends, olive complexion, do lots of camping and climbing as well as check out local ethnic restaurants. I believe in radical politics, visibility and acceptance. The superficial stuff of what you do and how many degrees you have is unimportant to me. I'm not looking for a clone of myself, only someone who is emotionally sensitive and willing to share their greatest dreams and acknowledge their deepest fears. I can't promise you the stars, but I can promise you tomorrow! Call ★★2652.

"Hurry, Hurry, Hurry..."
To the greatest show on earth! In ring number one, all the way from New York's Ed Sullivan Theater, Topo Gigio! In ring number two, Pepe, the human cannonball! And in the main ring, everybody's favorite, the Jew from Brooklyn! She's 47, she's butch (soft), she's smart, she's literate, she's never boring (almost never), she loves music, she's aware, she's sensitive, she's a romantic, she's a pain in the ass (sometimes), and she's waiting to be discovered! Come early, avoid the rush. Reply BT Box DC4B or call ★★2653.

Sophisticated Nerd
Mid-20s East Bay femme dyke who enjoys fine food, witty conversation & seedy bars seeks single women (25-30ish) looking for fun and mental stimulation. Can you dance? Debate NAFTA? Wonder if inner children get grounded? Question Ross Perot's standing as a populist? Doubt the PC paradigm? Find funky restaurants? If you are smiling now, maybe we should chat. Sense of humor essential. Romance an option. Sex always a nice bonus. Call ★★2654.

To: The Little Prince
Hope life is treating you well. "Life is a series of beginnings... that bring us closer to the realization of our dreams." —Edith Schaffer Lederberg.

Hey, Baby Girl!
Yeah, RJK—just thinking of the night we made incredible love for 2 hours, inspiring your straight neighbors to their record-breaking 15 minutes! I'm so thankful I'm a lesbian! Thankful for having such a passionate, honest, mature, caring, intelligent, feisty, demanding, curvy, feminine, exciting, sexy, sensual, big brown-eyed, red-nailed woman/girl in my life. You make me wanna shoop! Your surprise? Just wait. Love, your baby—TLC. Call ★★2655.

Soulmate Wanted
30-something Asian lesbian who is frustrated with immature partners, possessive lovers, pick-up joints, is looking for women of color who have at least one passion in life, sense of humor, spontaneity, and who believe in friendships that lead to LTR. No drugs, heavy alcohol, S/M. I like nature, good conversations, cafes, dancing, cuddling in bed. I am androgynous, attractive, outgoing, sincere, honest. Let's connect! Call ★★2656.

Exceptionally Wonderful Person
Me, that is. You too? I am sweet, loving, good-natured and affectionate (no, I'm not a puppy); also intelligent, witty, creative, strong and energetic; and I dance beautifully. Talented in many arts, which I practice professionally. Not usually boastful but hey, this is an ad. Deeply romantic, luckily coupled with just enough seasoned realism. Enjoy theater, outdoors, travel, intellectual stimulation, home and quiet pursuits. Very feminine, stylish and quite pretty; 35+. The ideal sweetie! Also happen to be MTF transsexual in midst of well-planned transition. To quote a song: "I'm a woman in all the ways a woman should be." I want to be in love with a gentle "butch" or FTM "boyfriend." Want to desire and court a sweet girlfriend? Reply BT Box DC5B or call ★★2657.

Sensuality
I love silk, leather, hair, massage, a rich sexy voice, soft smooth skin, and long teasing kisses! My other interests include music, art, humor, personal growth, good movies, and talking and laughing with friends. I'm in my mid-30s, 5'3", 112 lbs., brown hair and eyes. Please be an attractive, honest, intelligent nonsmoker who lives in SF. Call ★★2658.

Young In Palo Alto
And I have to stop falling for older women! Looking for a peer (22-28), comfortable with your gay/bi identity, but sexually inexperienced enough (like me) that we can explore together. I'm average height, average size, average looks, above-average communication skills! Have you seen *The Piano* yet? It could be your first blind date! Call ★★2659.

A Plain And Simple Love
With andro-butch who learns well, where and how to touch me; who will cherish me and respect who I've become in my 57 years, what my struggles have been and still are; who admires my courage and accepts me deeply, as I accept her. Come with an open heart: not "terribly clever," calculating, nor well-defended. Prefer exclusively lesbian, non-social worker, non-"married," ND, NS. Do be sensually and sexually adventuresome and playful, and eager for a monogamous commitment. An established

Dykes To Watch Out For

WOMEN'S WORK
©1993 BY ALISON BECHDEL
JUNE, I'M HOME!
GOOD.
ELO-WIPES
HELLO, MY GORGEOUS BABES! DID THIS ONE JUST GET HIS DIDY CHANGED?
NOPE. YOU'RE JUST IN TIME.
WE SAVED IT FOR YOU SO YOU COULD FEEL INCLUDED IN OUR INTIMATE MOTHER-CHILD BOND.
HNH.
OH, I INVITED HARRIET AND ELLEN OVER FOR DINNER TO CELEBRATE WINNING THE ELECTION - IS THAT OKAY?
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
SNAP!
CLARICE, THIS PLACE IS A DISASTER AREA! ALL WE HAVE TO EAT IS LEFTOVERS AND BREAST MILK, AND EVERY ARTICLE OF CLOTHING I OWN IS COVERED WITH BABY BLURP!
EHH...
SHIT! MY SUIT!
WAAH!
THERE THEY ARE.
DING DONG
HI, TONI!
DON'T PANIC - WE BROUGHT DINNER.
OH! WELL COME ON IN, THEN. AND CONGRATULATIONS, COUNCILWOMAN!
CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? MY LOVER'S A POLITICIAN.
THE RACE WAS A LITTLE TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT! I WAS AFRAID WE'D ALL BE EATING TRADITIONAL VALUES FOR BREAKFAST WHEN YOUR OPPONENT GOT THOSE TWO BLACK MINISTERS TO SUPPORT HIS HOMOPHOBIC CAMPAIGN!
WELL, I'VE BEEN DOING REAL COALITION WORK FOR YEARS, WITH MY JOB AT SOCIAL SERVICES. I THINK THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN, VIETNAMESE, AND NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES KNOW THEY CAN TRUST ME OVER THAT RACIST PINHEAD ANY DAY OF THE WEEK, NO MATTER WHO I SLEEP WITH.
HEY, ELLEN! SAY HELLO TO YOUR YOUNGEST CONSTITUENT!
SHRIEK!
I BETTER TAKE HIM, CLARICE. IT'S TIME FOR A FEED.
HERE'S TO CITY HALL. WHAT BETTER WAY TO FIGHT IT THAN TO JOIN IT?
WHAT'S NEXT, ELLEN? CONGRESS?
OH, I DUNNO. I WAS SORTA THINKING IT MIGHT BE NICE TO HAVE A KID FIRST.
MMF

professional working in the East Bay, I live in Tri-Valley area. Rich psychological, spiritual and educational background. Am excited by oceans, travel, art, music, books and most dyke activities. Let's become friends who share daily ups and downs and go on to more—or not. Friends welcome and very appreciated. Reply BT Box DC6B.

Satisfaction Guaranteed

I have one... ah, well, fuck buddy, but I can only see her about once a week. I would like to find one or two other women who can appreciate great sex without complications. I am very oral, aggressive & more of a giver than receiver. You: emotionally mature, clean, intelligent, grounded and know a good thing when you feel one. Strict lesbians only please. Call ★★2660.

I Deserve The Best

Don't you? I'm short, medium build, 27, andro, sweet, romantic, opinionated, cuddly, passionate, jovial, talkative and lonely! I don't work out or do sports. I do smoke, drink and eat meat. I admit to watching "Roseanne," "90210" & "Melrose Place." I want to meet other andro womyn, 23-30, under 5'5", 125-175 lbs., to laugh and cry through life with. Weakness for Filipina, Asian & Latina womyn. Let's make some New Year's Eve plans! Call ★★2661.

The Most Sensuous

Part of a woman's body is the nape of your neck! Scorpio, 33, GWF, petite, auburn hair, brown eyes, funny, passionate, hopeless romantic, enjoys comedy, photography, holding you close, long kisses, intimate conversations, sex, reading dyke mysteries, making snide remarks/holding hands at the movies. You're smart, funny, adventurous, communicative, emotionally available, over your ex!, love cuddling, long walks, exploring; not into false pretenses, roles or "instant attraction"—don't you think that's something that grows? Wrap that string of lights around my heart by being who you are with your kindness, decency, the wonderful way you're ordinary, then expect the unexpected! Reply BT Box DC7B or call ★★2662.

Independent Yet "Couple-Able"

Working on my creative career, but miss romantic weekend escapades. 30s, femme, nonsmoker, looking for a mutual spark. A femme blend of light sarcasm mixed with sweet vulnerability, along with inspired drive for what you do, sense of style or design? Into foreign films? Antiques? Fairly painless exercise? Stunning tofu recipes and decadent desserts? I have a cat and a car, live in the City and I'm not afraid of bridges or driving! Call ★★2663.

Sweet Liberation!

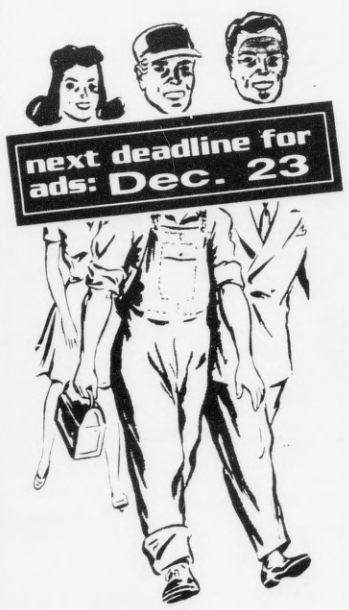
My sexuality has been freed! Once lesbian, now bisexual (still women-oriented), African-American woman, 20, seeks women of color, 20-35. I'm single, intelligent, attractive and honest. I like creative writing, music, conversation and intimacy. I'm looking for women who want to be friends, lovers or more. Please be cute, sexual, honest, trustworthy, non-butch, independent. My life's only missing one major component—a special woman, like you. Call ★★2664.

My Cat Made Me Write This

31, tall, fit, feminine, very attractive—I am literate, published, have 2 master's degrees and a sinful sense of humor. I like movies, theater, food, laughing—but true to my unfortunate Gemini nature, I dream of more. I know there are wonderful things to discover in this city, which is new to me. Will you help me look? Please be similar to me, nonsmoking, interested, attractive, feminine, successful, funny—and curious. I'm looking for new friends, but if accidentally... well, anyway. Call ★★2665.

Young Single Mother

20-year-old Black lesbian with 2-year-old son hopes to find a Black woman who loves children. I'm 5'7", very thin, with a light complexion. My hobbies include movies, basketball, listening to the radio, and spending time with my son. I'd love to meet women who are honest, intelligent, in-shape, fun, beautiful and who know what they want out of life. Please respond. Call ★★2666.



Nice Jewish Girl

Seeks not-necessarily-similar (all ethnicities welcome). I'm a sensitive, caring, femmish dyke activist/grad student/counselor in my 20s. I enjoy music, dancing, hiking, laughing, cuddling, and obnoxious (but well-thought-out) political action. Whether or not you enjoy the same is not that important. However, warmth, humor, honesty and communication are important to me, in all relationships. Let's take it slow and see what develops. Call ★★2667.

One Good Woman

I'm looking for one good (femme) woman for my (great) friend. She's bright, attractive, femme, has a wonderful laugh and a great sense of the spiritual. You be: open, honest, free of drugs/alcohol/smokes, with a good sense of humor. A plus for cat lovers. Call her at the following box # and be prepared to be enchanted. Call ★★2668.

Where Are The Feminine Women?

I enjoy looking like a woman and would like to meet other women like myself. If you are tired of the bars, but you want to share other social outlets such as concerts, movies, stargazing, walks or just hanging out; if you are looking for a real friend, a good friend who will always be there, maybe it's fate. Let's talk. Reply BT Box DC8B or call ★★2669.

This Ad Is For You

Lover or a friend. Adventurous in spirit, enjoy indoors and outdoors, camping, flea markets; very compassionate, androgynous or femme looks, non-butch. Monogamy, affectionate, not afraid of being close to someone; late-20s and 30s, no games, nights at home by candlelight or fireplace, fine champagne or a cold beer; playful yet intense; no S/M. Giving is a must, so is receiving, flexible. Hate moodiness. Where are you? I'm here, a shy Asian in her 30s, stable. Caring for someone is my number 1. Co-parenting necessary. Asian or Latina. Reply BT Box DC9B or call ★★2670.

Come Share All Your Fantasies With Me

Exotic young bi Black woman with bedroom eyes looking for exotic lipstick friend, lover to make all our fantasies come true! Race not important, but bi-racial a plus! Reply BT Box DC10B or call ★★2671.

Russian Dyke

Is seeking Russian dykes. Call ★★2672.

Will I Find You?

Wrapped in lovely red and green ribbons under my Christmas Tree on the 25th? Warm, passionate, strong-willed, 40-yr-old contented woman seeks the same for a new love in the new year. Shall we build castles in the sand, swim in warm waters or build a snowwoman in Tahoe? This charming Virgo woman gives great hugs, delicious kisses and massages that will curl your toes. I'm ready; how about you? Call ★★2673.

Steady On

Rather neurotic soft butch surprises friends and self with shyness, sense of humor, self-doubts. 32, unpretentious intellectual, bookish, good one on one, nervous in groups. In therapy. (I'll be perfect soon.) Gainfully employed. Seeking direction. Loved *The Piano*. Not organizationally impaired. Lazy athlete. Believes life's too short for any television besides "Roseanne" and "Melrose." Full of contradictions, opinions, passion, confusion. For a good time (?) call ★★2674.

Let's Get To The Point

Seeking an inquisitive and fun-loving woman who desires challenging yet pleasurable experiences. I enjoy poetry, music, movies, cooking, strolling through nature, and cuddling. I'm a 32 y.o. Jewish, significantly disabled woman with C.P. desiring romantic encounters. East Bay, soft butch, sexually aggressive (not S/M) women between 25-40 preferred. Write or call. Reply BT Box DC11B or call ★★2675.

Angel/Whore

Angel/whore... Oooohh, I'm not sure of what that means, I just like how it sounds. Describe to me how it sounds to you. I'm tall, attractive, kinda redheaded, in my late 30s, and pretty damn "full of it." I want to push/pull, conflict/resolve, ebb and flow. Not necessarily in that order. NS, ND. Call me. Call ★★2676.

Do You Like Harleys?

When I think of you, my engine begins to roar, rev to the extreme and overheat. I am prime for riding, but can only be handled by a woman like you. Hop on and take me for the ride of my life... Now that I have your attention. I am glad you found me through pages similar to these, heard my voice through a sea of others and took a chance. I want it all: the fame, fortune, kids, cabin in the woods & vegetarian meals, but most of all I want it all with you! Do you feel the same way?

Dark Eyes

Very attractive woman seeking to date women, 25-35. Wanting to meet other good-looking women who are creative, independent, adventurous, playful, thinking, secure, romantic, passionate, wild, offbeat artist types. You must be able to express and love who you are and the things you feel and want. I'm especially attracted to green eyes, brown eyes, Mediterranean, Latin women. Nonsmokers only. Call ★★2677.

Reside In Darkness For Perpetual Renewal

Tattooed, pagan, Saggitarius fairy is looking for like-minded friends. I enjoy strawberries, Hot Head Paisan, cats, affection, creative living, rebellion, aromatherapy, herbal magick, conversation, foreign flicks, demented minds, K.G.B., Guiness, Faster Pussycat & Junk, Billie Holiday, KALX, full moons. Despise separatism and ignorance. Call ★★2678.

Chemistry, Karma, Necessity?

I want to meet someone new. I've been described as a butch Mama, maybe it's my job. I'm 5'7", height/weight in proportion. I have long hair and am softspoken, so I don't look very butch but I'm more comfortable as a top, so you're more comfortable as a bottom. I like quantum physics, number theory, mysticism, Jungian psychology and music and especially that undefined fourth dimension where they all seem to converge. You're extremely intelligent, feminine, sensual, sex-positive and employed. You're probably over 26 and under 40, weight and height proportional. Call, we'll listen for a spark. Call ★★2679.

Dancing Anyone?

Looking for hot women to go out dancing with. Must be into dancing a lot. Let's meet and go out to clubs like Rhythm, Deep, Dekadence, the Box, G-Spot & etc. No strings attached. Let's just go out and have some fun. I am a 30ish, SWF, who is attractive, in-shape and who loves to bump & grind on the dance floor. Call ★★2680.

Gentle Respect

Sexual, attractive, animals, I.S.A., fit, tall, integrity, caring, intimacy, androgynous, E. Bay woman, herb and healing, meet 45-55 y.o., grown and recovered, adventuresome sexuality, androgynous to butch-of-center, health, healing, sexual, emotionally available, spiritual woman for LTR, cafe, chat and friends. Call ★★2681.

Femme Seeking Companion

Femme, mid-20s, blonde, attractive, strong-minded and aware, seeks androgynous to butch lesbian for friendship. Good-hearted, sincere, easygoing women of all ages encouraged to reply. Call ★★2682.

Forty

Faithful, friendly, fun, feisty, fallible, fluffy, fair-faced, fitness fiend looking for fellowship with a female who loves Jesus. (Are you out there?) If fortuity is forthcoming, friendship could flourish into LTR. Monogamous. Call ★★2683.

Adventurous Napa Valley Dyke

Seeks wacky pals to play with. Last week I designed and built a bed out of branches, scouted for rock climbing areas on my mountain bike, watched *Little Shop of Horrors* while creating a Nancy Reagan mobile, and vacuumed my cottage. If you'd like to join me in similar exploits, call or send a tacky postcard describing an urban spelunking experience or a weird invention you've designed. Reply BT Box DC12B or call ★★2684.

What's Up, Ladies

I thought I would run my ad one more time hoping to find WFs, 35 and up, to share friendship and fun with. I'm a strong and giving lady, also real. No drugs/drinking (I played that game too long); smoking OK. Let's start today and make a new friend. PO Box 1666, Martinez 94553. Send a flick if you can. I have no voice mail. Merry Christmas.

Bonds Like Crazy Glue...

Strong and fast! I'm a tall, brilliant, neurotic, kinda cute, exasperating, talkative (yet listening), sometimes hilarious, sober 32 y.o. East Bay politician/activist/lawyer/grad student. I talk mostly about three things—sex, politics and religion. I'm looking for a woman who isn't allergic to commitment, who embraces diversity and will adore me absolutely, in return for all of the above plus passionate kisses and occasional roses. Call ★★2685.

I'm Not Looking

For instant romance or instant friendship. I think it takes time to develop those things. I am looking to meet Black lesbians (31-40 yrs. old) who enjoy some of these activities: going to movies, concerts, sporting events, the theater, dancing. Do you enjoy books, music (I listen to KBLX, KMEL)? I'm 35 yrs. old, a Black lesbian, full figured, live in the East Bay. I'm sensitive, caring, honest, love to laugh and have a positive outlook on life. If it sounds like we have something in common, please call and see what develops. Call ★★2686.

All Points Bulletin

Looking for a cute brunette dyke thought to live in the Richmond District—last seen smiling behind the counter at Spinelli's in Cole Valley (end of Sept.). I don't get to Cole Valley anymore due to a change in employment, but I can't get her out of my mind. Please, if you have any information call. This brown/blue soft butch thanks you all. Call ★★2687.

Bored W/Conventional Romance

Playful, healthy, eccentric, beautiful, petite, redhead with wheelchair disability, 33, loves dancing, pool, sailing, water sports, laughter and travel, seeks lesbian hippies, potheads and revolutionaries for fun, adventure and as playmates and lovers. Write and tell me about your fascinating self and philosophy of life/love. Reply BT Box DC13B.

Naked Hunch

Are you looking for change, new friendships and romance in the New Year? Me, too! Passionate, witty, literate, emotional but stable, knows how to accessorize, blue-eyed, andro-butch seeks compassionate, intelligent, easily amused, good-looking femme with character, style and enthusiasm. Enjoys arts, eats, wine, music and dancing. 35 to 40s. NS. Call ★★2688.

Type A/Type B

Type A girl desired with Type B tendencies. Let's get real—who doesn't like the beach, movies, going out, walks at sunset and music? And who wouldn't describe herself as sensitive, kind, compassionate, gentle, loving and sexually adventurous? If you're the type of smartass woman who can appreciate this somewhat tongue-in-cheek approach (tongue in where...?) I want to talk with you. NS, ND. Call me. Call ★★2689.

OK, OK, I Tried This...

Jewish mensch of the butch variety (soft) sought Jewish mensch of the femme variety (lipstick?!?) to spoil each other in ways only we would understand. Thank you for answering on that rainy Friday night one whole year ago. What a marvelous, amazing year it has been. Here's to 59 more... and the month of January. Ani ohevet otach, metuka sheli.

Mi Cielo, Mi Angel, Mi Nina

Voz tan dulce me derrite, hojos obscurro y empasionado me entoxican, labios de miel que mando me con deseos. Cuando serca tu cuerpo delicado siento la fuerza de mil hombres. Tu frescura seduces y exitas mi mente. Mi corazon brinca con emocion cuando arrodillada te ofreces para mi placer. Estoy honorado y orgulloso siendo tu papi. Agradesco tu calor, carino, ser de humor y valor. Ansio tu disiplina, dedicasion y sumision. Obedescame y respectame y tuy sere. Call ★★2690.

Are You A Betting Woman?

I bet after one phone conversation, we'll learn lots about each other, like whether we want to meet. I bet risking this call could lead to the jackpot. I've drafted the "funny" ad, the "universally popular qualities" ad, the "candlelight dinner—beach walk" ad. Here's the straightforward ad: I'm active, athletic, educated, honest, funny, shy. If you don't smoke, are 35-50, have a sense of humor and believe in carpe diem, take my bet. Call ★★2691.

Sir/Ma'am—For Your Pleasure—Sir/Ma'am

Butch switch daddy, 35, exploring and expanding my possibilities by realizing my desires for a daddy or mommy of my own. I value the mutual nurturing and respect involved in the mommy &/or daddy—boy/girl dynamics. I prefer someone who will be a friend as well as mentor. Please be communicative, adventurous, non-judgmental, fun-loving, and kind of heart. I am honest, dedicated, congenial, and a quick and eager muse. Call ★★2692.

I Want

A cute girl to totally push me around. Call ★★2693.

Gertrude Had Alice

Laverne had Shirley. I know you're out there for me. GWF, 38, seeking 30-40something GF who believes in herself, has intelligence, humor, a playful, loving soul. Shared interests might include theater, books, film, romance, laughter, adventures, the astonishment of being. No new souls need apply. Call ★★2694.

I Miss Dating...

The fun, exciting, feeling special kind, not the awkward, judgmental kind. I'm 33, attractive, like creative pursuits, being outside, humor, sensitive and communicative people. I'm not relationship desperate, but open to meeting some new women for friendship and possible dating. Call ★★2695.

Be A Bike Messenger—

Or just look like one! Anarcha bi girl—cute, smart, grouchy—wants someone to hang out with, talking and smoking at the bar, then back to your place for a stringless tryst. Beer-drenched conversations about popular culture my forte. Call ★★2696.

Most Wanted: Hot Femme Top

To treat me right. Must be tough, sweet and playful. Just great sex makes me happy too! Myself: white, supposedly cute, sex-starved, romantic, semi-retired anarchist transplant, into martial and other arts. Like to meet new lesbians from all ethnic backgrounds and ways of life. No drug addicts, no attitudes; but fun. Call ★★2697.

Radical Lesbos

Where are you? I'm the activist type, but a woman cannot live on politics alone! I like movies, theater, comedy, art and literature. I love the ocean, hiking, scenic drives. I've done much personal recovery work. I'm ethnic & kinda butchy. Prefer intelligent, attractive women who are passionate, sexual, femmey yet dykey; with a sense of humor & a zest for lezzie life. I prefer East Bay, 26-39, under 5'7". No drugs, bisexuals or S/M. So if this shoe fits you, why doncha call? Reply BT Box DC14B or call ★★2698.

OK, OK, I'll Try This...

59 years, big Jewish mensch (occasional lipstick), all my love, amazing sex, one papita, lots of yin, red riding hood, back scratches, deep laughter, and the month of January. Will you take me? Call ★★2699.

Fearful Love

Rather be afraid of you than afraid of myself. Boy dyke seeks friend-fuck-daddy thing for gender navigation, spiritual trading, power games, sexual scenarios (negotiable) and terror. Me: 30, of the 3rd gender, switch, traditionally boy handsome, wise ass, but take pain only in trade for above. You: over 35, seriously butch to literally male, able to catch as well as pitch, be kind, fun and mean, play without marriage but with caring and relative safety. Must be OK with the reality of my female physiycal body. Letters only. Reply BT Box DC15B.

If You Like Blue Eyes

N. Bay, GWF, 35 yrs. young, androgynous, physically fit w/piercing blue eyes, and lots of charm, seeks womyn w/similar qualities, 30-42 yrs., honest, caring, sincere, fun-loving, spiritually healthy, w/sense of humor and adventure, in bed and out, like the outdoors, like themselves, financially stable. Looking for a friend w/possibility of LTR. Casual drinker, no drugs, no S/M; lesbian only, please. So if you would like to respond, just look into my eyes.... Reply BT Box DC16B or call ★★2701.

A Nan Parks Fairytale?

Come out, come out, whomever you are! Or perhaps Dorothy and Scarecrow will accompany this 32-year-old Cowardly Lion with curly hair and glasses as she meanders about the yellow brick road in Oz. We'll have fun strolling in enchanted dandelion fields, befriending wildlife and dancing with all the critters. Happiness is not where you seek it; there's no place like home! Call ★★2702.

Academic Terrorist

I like short skirts, long novels, overly intense, endless sex, and limitless conversation. GF, 31, intellectual, slut and general malcontent, new to SF. Looking for kindred spirits who are smart, sexy, hip, passionate and talkative. Call ★★2703.

After Hours

GWF, 29, seriously restless for late-night scenes. Quiet, quirky, intelligent and aware. Seeking open-minded single/semi-single women, 20s to early-30s, for dancing, alternative music, good beer and general silliness. Points for dependability, mild sarcasm and a sense of the absurd. Call ★★2704.

Liking Me Comes Easy

But it's hard to find someone like me. You too like playful arts escapades; or just quiet poetic license, peer counseling walking urban gypsy trails. Shair Tai Chi healing arts' "walkin' talks" (so named honoring our indigenous heritage). Earth feels sacred the more we walk her. Be a gallant, semi-retired lesbian (nonsmoking, -drugging). Equation dreamt: love = honesty + simplicity + gentleness. To walk, reply BT Box DC17B or call ★★2705.

Sweet, Ready And Available

SF lesbian, 40, entrepreneur, very stable emotionally and financially, physically fit, intellectually inclined, good conversationalist with many interests from arts to sciences seeks active, good-humored, pet-loving SF lesbian, andro to femme, who has her life together, is goal-oriented and happy with herself. I also enjoy ballet, classical music/theater, reading and trying new things. No drugs, light alcohol OK. Call ★★2706.

Pack Your Bags

35-year-old artist and writer with deep and lasting dependence on hair gel seeks cold, shut-down, insecure, closed-mouth date for fun and good times. If you want to meet a sweet-natured, well-groomed girl from the Midwest and make her life miserable, call today! Extra points if your friends are mean. Call ★★2707.

Sweet Mama Seeks Sweet-Toothed Daddy

Soft, curvy, smart, 32-year-old, brown-eyed, blonde bundle of love seeks strong, dark & handsome woman who's in her 30s, romantic, monogamous, emotionally fluent, sexually indulgent, polite to strangers, romantic, bored by mind-altering substances, excited by her work or school or art or cause, romantic, and looking for true love. I love singing jazz, taking pictures, being with pals, and dancing to hip hop, funk & salsa in a club or to something slow and intense in a darkened bedroom in the arms of a fine butchy babe. Call ★★2708.

165 Pounds Of Firm Femininity

Add a tender heart, great voice, brains, guts of steel and insatiable sex organs. Top with lots of brunette hair (this week), big blue eyes and a smile you'll never forget. Mist with spirituality, smart-ass tendencies and bake her in 1956. Wrap in a medium full life wrapper—curvy—sprinkle with spice so you'll never be bored. Poof! She's ready! Call ★★2709.

Ready To Explode

And break out of my year-long hibernation (all I do is work). Me: very attractive, fit, 36, butch-of-center, salt and pepper hair, funny and bright. You: very attractive, sexy, femme, 30-40, fit, good sense of humor, down-to-earth, intelligent, sex-positive and have direction in your life. Under 5'4" a real plus. No drugs, no smoking, light alcohol OK. Lesbians only. Reply 2215-R Market St., Box 809, SF 94114 or call ★★2800.

Athletic And Attractive

... Friendly and curious. I'm interested in books, brunch, biking, movies, mysteries, medicine, food, fashion, foreign travel, dancing and (of course) sex. How about you? Do you like to walk or run? Do you like to laugh a lot? Do you want to meet someone like me? Stow Lake Boathouse, GG Park, 9 am, Saturday morning. Any Saturday. Dress for exercise. I'll be looking for you. Reply BT Box DC18B or call ★★2801.

SHARED INTEREST

Please Note

The Shared Interest ads are a part of the Personals, and as such are for individuals seeking other

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individuals with common personal interests. They are not for the purpose of forming professional connections. If you are looking for business partners, clients or work-trade arrangements, or if you are forming a professional organization, please use the Open Exchange classified ads. Thanks.

Women Runners And Walkers
Come out and get sweaty with us! The San Francisco FrontRunner Women are waiting to welcome you. Do you want a fast five-mile run? A gentle one-mile walk? Something in between? We run (or walk), have fun. Come join us (and the guys), 9 am Saturdays, Stow Lake Boathouse, GG Park. Call ★★2749.

How Big Is Your Christmas Tree?
Do you love Christmas and tend to get carried away in December? Would you like to meet other Christmas addicts? If so, call & leave a message! Age, sex, race and dick size not important. Call ★★2750.

Circumcision, No!
Discussion and support group meets monthly (first Sunday, 4 pm) for those with concerns about how the American social custom of infant male genital mutilation violates human rights and harms children and the men they become. PO Box 460795, SF 94146 or call ★★2751.

Skatergirls
We rollerskate in the park on Sunday, at a roller rink on Wednesday (queer night), and at other times depending on our whims. We're looking for more women to skate with. All skill levels welcome, and also any type of skates—quads, in-lines, shopping cart wheels that you've sewn on your socks... If you're interested... reply BT Box DC600B or call ★★2752.

Lez Jam—Play It, Girl!
We're still doin' it! Great attitudes, small egos, lots of fun and no judgment stuff. Blues, rock, real book standards—you bring it, we'll try to play it! Be intermediate to advanced and ready to enjoy exploring anything musically intimidating in a safe environment. East Bay, but we're flexible if you are. Call ★★2753.

South Bay
Gay spiritual support group. Personal growth, self-awareness/help, books, enneagram, higher self, transcendence, loving self/other, personality types, meditation, balance, individuality, intuition, transpersonal psychology, etc. Call ★★2754.

Prospective Queer Parents
Do you want to be one? We are a community group that meets on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 11:30 am for a potluck & discussion about lesbians & gay men co-parenting together or known donor situations. If you are looking for a co-parent or just looking for support—come & eat with us. Call ★★2755.

Asian/Pacific-American Visual Artists
Chinese-American bidyke artist looking for other queer APA artists for support, networking, friendship—or just to touch base. I want to know who is out there doing art! Maybe we can even form a group if enough folks are interested & have energy for it. In any case, I would love to hear from you! Reply BT Box DC601B or call ★★2756.

Looking For Sports Partners
Male graduate student, 25, seeks tennis, basketball or bridge partners of either gender. I am a "B" level tennis player, an intermediate level basketball player, and an advanced intermediate bridge player. I am looking for competitive people who view their competition in a friendly way. Call ★★2757.

SF Lesbians And Their Dogs...
Looking for friends for dogwalks, dogsitting and/or company while mom's at work! Long or short hair! Call ★★2758.

Classical Music Partner
Pianist of modest ability seeks violinist, cellist, flutist, etc. for sight reading easy chamber music. PO Box 31519, SF 94131 or call ★★2759.

Exchange Massage
CMT wishes to exchange with sincere slim to med. built GM. You need not be certified, only sincere and experienced in nurturing the spirit as well as the body. This is not a sex ad. As a massage therapist for the critically ill I am in need of a deep, caring touch to help me keep centered. Massage. PO Box 14065, SF 94114 or call ★★2760.

Hey, You Musical Dykes!
Itchin' to let loose and make some good music? Me too! This soul singin', jazz singin', everything singin' dyke is looking for fun, creative, instrument-playing women to jam and possibly perform with. No heavy drugs or alcohol users, please. Don't be shy, come on down. Call ★★2761.

Basketball Jones
Severe basketball jones & need to play once or twice a week. Girls, boys, any combination genders, as often as we can. Also, any racquetballers please call. We're two dykes with a court practically in our backyard. Call ★★2762.

Tennis
I am an Asian lesbian, 23 years old, C player, looking for folks who want to play tennis in the evenings on weekdays/weekends and possibly weekend mornings. I am also open for socializing. I live in SF. Call ★★2763.

Gardening Anyone?
This novice (but avid) gardener (GAM, 41) seeks anyone interested in assisting with basic gardening tasks. Extensive experience not necessary—will instruct and learn from others. Garden is in San Francisco. Weekends only. Call ★★2764.

Wanna Play?
East Bay lesbians seeking others to play... games? Fingerpainting? Re-experiencing the joys of Play-doh? Saturday is our best day for recess, but we're open to suggestions. Folks of all sizes, ages, colors (you get the picture) are welcome. The only requirements are a sense of fun and a willingness to share your toys! Call ★★2765.

San Francisco Women's Jam
Weekend jam sessions for lesbians who play any instrument on intermediate or advanced level and like blues, rock, jazz. I play electonic guitar. Singers and lyricists also welcome. Let's share songs for fun and practice! Call ★★2766.

They Shoot Film, Don't They?
GM seeks individual to work with on queer film, both male- and female-oriented. Seeking someone with technical background to complement my writing skills. Most interested in short, amateur, narrative film, but open to all ideas. Call ★★2767.

Friendly Wrestling Club
Looking to connect with other guys into old-fashioned rough housing and rolling around on the mats? Our philosophy includes an appreciation of wrestling combined with relaxed enjoyment of sheer physical contact through recreational, playful, non-competitive fun. We get together for occasional 'rassling parties and through a free members' directory. All sizes, ages and levels of experience welcome. Write: Wrestling, 584 Castro St., #504, SF 94114.

Volleyball!
Looking for A/B level women volleyball players to form team for local leagues & possibly trip to Gay Games in New York (June '94). If you're interested, please call & leave your "vital statistics": play level, position, phone number, city of work/residence. Reliable team players with sense of humor & lack of attitude preferred. Or if your team needs players, let me know. Reply BT Box DC602B or call ★★2768.

East Bay Non-Professional Counseling Exchange
GWM, 44, with varied counseling experience (not professional counselor) seeks similar gay/lesbian to meet weekly for mutual sharing/listening/feedback. Could include occasional phone check-ins between meetings. I'm already doing this with one partner and want one more. Please describe yourself, your experience, and your needs, and include your phone #. PO Box 8031, Berkeley 94707 or call ★★2769.

bi BISEXUAL

Have It All!
Bisexual womyn seeks long-term relationship with well-to-do bi guy. We want children, family life, as well as options for discreet same sex partners. You should be nonsmoking, light- or non-drinking, 30 to 50 years old, politically and spiritually aware. I'm independent, loving, fun, attractive, dynamic, self-actualized, secure, homeowner. My interests include bicycling, hiking, live entertainment, swimming, quiet times, scuba, travel. Call ★★2710.

Holidays-R-Us
Sophisticated, humorous, sexy, attractive BiWF searching for the other woman who enjoys the sensuality that two women share. You, like me, also appreciate the balance of a special male involved in our bisexual relationship. You are a woman who enjoys laughter, silliness, honesty, good communication, and are also health-conscious. Prefer someone 28-39, who enjoys physical activities, both outdoors and indoors, as well as a propensity toward romantic and sensual game playing. NS, ND, light alcohol. Call ★★2711 or write PO Box 640334, SF 94164.

Single WM
Businessman, 49, tall, tan, fit & trim, in 3 yr. relationship with beautiful blonde BiWF bodybuilder, 33, 5'6", 118 lbs. We want a slim, fit, bi female, 26-36, to share low-key Florida lifestyle. Prefer nonsmoker, D&D-free. Why spend your time in bumper to bumper traffic when you can have it all? If you enjoy fine horses and want to share our homes, please send photo and short bio for fun and more. Reply BT Box DC300B.

BiF Lover Wanted
By BiDWM for fun. I'm HIV-, NS, nice, no STDs. You must be too. Call ★★2712.

Couple Desperate For Young Girl (18+)/Couple
I'm bi, 5'5", slim, blonde hair, 18 yrs. old. He is 5'10", brown hair, 18 yrs. old and very horny. If it is fun, we do it, want to try it or have mastered the art of it. Sometimes we are nice. Call or write. Reply BT Box DC301B or call ★★2713.

Playful Playmate
Mentally and physically passionate, safely non-monogamous, bisexual pre-op TS woman, 5'8", 140 lbs., 44, seeks curious, sensuous, creative, energetic, sweet, caring man who enjoys being a man as much as I enjoy being a woman (whatever all that means). Surprise me, amuse me, excite me, tease me, just don't bore me. If you're in love with life, whatever your style, we'll find pleasures to enjoy together. Call ★★2714.

J/O Partners Only
22 y.o. Asian-American male seeks J/O partners, for fun and games. Seeking those with a sense of humor, open and fun to be with. Pls be of similar age. If interested, write: HW, PO Box 77421, SF 94107 or call ★★2715.

Seeking Couple
To explore possibility of group relationship based on polyfidelity, honesty and fun with earthy, healthy, active, late-30s, bisexual man who lives in Marin. Reply BT Box DC302B or call ★★2716.

Somewhat Battle-Weary
"Warrior for peace" seeks BiF with joy in her heart and a taste for romance in her spirit. Let's bask in the twinkles in our eyes, make night fires on the beach and marvel in the kiss of our great smiles. Perhaps not mirrors but complementary supports, our active and youthful bodies will share everything from techno to classical jazz, exploring full range of life and the arts (just as creative, intelligent people should do) being as naked and nasty (or conservative and poised) as we wanna be. I'll call myself an elegant butch BiBM with charisma, charm, "deep" wisdom, tenderness, strength and a great sense of humor ... You're approximately 18-40, urban/suburban or just plain freak. 5337 College Ave., Suite 552, Oakland 94618 or call ★★2717.

Searching For Like-Minded Humans!
Bisexual woman, 49 yrs. old, wants broadminded correspondence, friendships and more. Likes hot tubs, nature, camping, hiking by the ocean or mountains, animals (dogs especially), gardening, music (world), reading, the arts, traveling, bicycling, good sense of humor, movies, spiritual (no smokers or drugs). PO Box 7304, Santa Rosa 95407-0304. Please P. of Brisbane, write me again. I misplaced your address. Thanks!

Novice Ready To Explore
Bi male, married with limited bi experience would like to meet a similar male in the Sonoma, Napa or Marin area for occasional discreet meetings. I'm 37, 5'6", 135 lbs., light skin and hair, slim and in good shape from regular exercise. I've been thinking about this for a while and am ready to explore with a safe, sincere guy who understands my need for discretion and occasional male sex. Please write PO Box 150412, San Rafael 94915 or call ★★2718.

Sensual Match
Articulate, naturally masculine 40 y.o. blond with a slenderly muscular, rangy 6'3", 168 lb. gym-toned body seeks honorable, deep, physically fit & clean-living gay or bi buddy. Inside my outgoing, energized exterior, I'm warmly attentive and prefer quiet interactions away from the masses. Offering and seeking affection, playfulness and passion, I prefer that our bodies' natural harmonies suggest our sexual positioning and not a script. You can be HIV-, + or not know, since responsible safety will reign supreme. Call ★★2719.

Straight/Bisexual Men
Looking for straight/bi men, 20-40 yrs. old, very good-looking, extremely masculine and hung like a horse and wonder what it's like to get head from a 30-yr-old, good-looking, masculine stud who is convinced it will be better than any woman can give. No reciprocation required—only serious dudes who want to kick back and be serviced. Leave message. Reply BT Box DC303B or call ★★2720.

Come Share All Your Fantasies With Me
Exotic young bi Black woman with bedroom eyes looking for exotic lipstick friend/lover to make all our fantasies come true! Race not important, but bi-racial a plus! Reply BT Box DC304B or call ★★2721.

I Love Lesbians And Straight Boys
I'm 25, pierced, tattooed, healthily-endowed, writer, artist, genius. Seeking womyn, 18-58, and lads, 18-25. Reply BT Box DC305B or call ★★2722.

Bi Curious
40-yr-old male looking for the opportunity to experience/share expanding sexuality with bisexual/bi-curious males. You are gentle, safe, open-minded, fun-loving. No drugs/alcohol. I live in the East Bay and use a wheelchair. Friends say I'm attractive. I can be affectionate, thoughtful, passionate and enjoy walks, movies, dinners, intimate conversation. Sexually I tend to be oral and like to give. Call ★★2723.

Attractive And Athletic...
I want to experience an intimate relationship with a woman. I am a W. bi female, age 32, who enjoys sports, listening to music, going to movies, walking on the beach, having fun; enjoy good conversation and going dancing. I live in Sonoma County and am willing to commute. Call ★★2724.

You And Us
You: bisexual Black female or male that is attractive, easygoing, sensual, safe and has fantasized of being shared—or just enjoys being with people. Us: beautiful Asian female and handsome white male both bisexual who are in shape, professional, sensitive, erotic, into hot long sex, very discreet, and not into any commitment. We are looking to share a fantasy with you. Call us. Call ★★2725.

Prince Charming Is A Slut!
Okay, wishful thinking. Strong, dominant, sarcastic BiBF, 30ish, seeks BiM with an attitude. Me: intense, statuesque, busy, attractive, East Coast attitude. You: fearless, bookish, slightly crazed, with beautiful smile, looking for some amazing times. Dancer/motorcycle a plus. Movie addicted, versatile bottom, kinky & kind. Are you out there? Call now damn you! Call ★★2726.

Bi-Curious Chicano
For the past five years I've lived my life as an openly gay male, but I can't deny my concurrent attraction to women. I'm 26, 5'3", 115 lbs. I dig modern rock, writing, conversations in cafes, museums. Would like to meet others (male and female) for friendship. Although I prefer Latino/as, I'm open to all. Please be ±6 years of my age. Call ★★2727.

Married Bi Guys
Periodically meet in SF weekday afternoons for safe, discrret small group encounters. Qualifications include: married, Caucasian, 35-45, height & weight in proportion, fit, HIV-, mutual oral orientation, average or better hung, some experience, no drugs, poppers OK, clean guy, fun/positive attitude, 100% discreet, intelligent working professional type or similar. This is an opportunity of a lifetime, don't miss it, make the call today. Call ★★2728.

t TRANS

PO'd At Too Much BS
I've had it with the gay community. Anybody who wants a drag queen, she-male, he-she or transvestite... you don't matter to me. If you wish to share a relationship with somebody who knows what she wants and are willing to help me obtain it, then you may call. I have the initial paperwork. I'm also as close to a living Barbie doll as you can get. Call ★★2735.

Taking Life Seriously
Asian, 26, pre-op TS, brn hair & eyes, 5'8", looking for Mr. Right. Ready to settle down and care for someone who appreciates monogamy, finer things life has to offer; build each other's dreams and goals. Preferably Caucasian men, 30+, emotionally & financially secure, neat, compassionate, warm. Serious only. Call ★★2736.

Fearful Love
Rather be afraid of you than afraid of myself. Boy dyke seeks friend-fuck-daddy thing for gender navigation, spiritual trading, power games, sexual scenarios (negotiable) and terror. Me: 30, of the 3rd gender, switch, traditionally boy handsome, wise ass, but take pain only in trade for above. You: over 35, seriously butch to literally male, able to catch as well as pitch, be kind, fun and mean, play without marriage but with caring and relative safety. Must be OK with the reality of my female physical body. Letters only. Reply BT Box DC400B or call ★★2737.

m MESSAGES

Paramount Theatre Lobby 11/12
My Fair Lady intermission. You: Hispanic (?), fitted pullover shirt, yellow jacket, short dk hair, w/Black girl. Me: white boy, short brn hair, slim w/sweater on. We exchanged several glances in lobby & on stairs. Would very much like to meet you; please respond if interest is mutual. Call ★★2780.

Bus Stop, Castro/17th, Sunday, 12/5, 6:30 pm
You: white cap, blue jeans, handsome. Me: blue & white varsity jacket, jeans, cute (?) Passed by twice with big blond friend. Looked both times, but missed the bus. Hi. Call ★★2781.

Red Dora's On Saturday 12/4
You squeezed past me in a large crowd of dykes out to see Hothead Paisan & others. You sat along wall up front, wore a basketweave hat, black leather & a great smile. Me: blue eyes, auburn hair, also along wall up front. Would you like to share chocolate and a few laughs? Call ★★2782.

Popsicles, Please Don't Melt
My ad in Nov. 4 issue got so many calls and letters, I will get back to you ASAP. My ad #1917 or BT Box NV86A was overwhelming to say the least. Thanks for making my day. Be patient and my talented tongue will seek you out. Happy New Year! Call ★★2783.

Bases Are Loaded—No Home Runs
To BK7: You wrote me a wonderful response to my ad with no return. Don't pass this up, you're not going to "lower your standards," and I'm not desperate. You describe yourself as two years younger, two inches shorter, and 10 pounds lighter. I don't like to leave stones unturned, so keep the baggy sweats on, don't always take the advice of your "body beautiful" friend and call ★★2784.

Muni, Dec. 6, Church & Market, 6 pm
J Church line from Powell. You: tall, nice-looking, green jacket and shoes, carrying a "Banana Republic" bag. Me: tall, black jacket, glasses, carrying a "Gap" bag. We smiled a lot. You got off at Church/Market. I got off the next stop and hurried back, but you were gone. I think we should meet. If nothing else, we could go shopping. Call ★★2785.

D., D., D.
I passed up a chance for a lifetime partner. Your name is D., from Danville or Dublin; you have a daughter and drive a mint Honda Accord Hatchback, with a passenger door that doesn't open. My name is D., Asian, from Oakland. Our first date was Chinese dinner; we watched a movie. I was young and confused. Now I'm ready. Hope you're still available. Pls. call ★★2786.

m MEN

Redwood City J/O Buddy(ies)
I'm seeking gay or bisexual male(s) who, like myself, reside in Redwood City. I'm tired of having to go to San Francisco (or for that matter other cities) to satisfy my sexual needs. There must be other gay or bisexual male(s) that reside in my city that need or want a J/O partner. I want to get together with you over your place on the weekends to satisfy both our sexual needs. So, if you're like me, over 21, HIV-, and again a resident of Redwood City, contact PO Box 880, Redwood City 94064 for more information.

Qui N'a Pas Besoin De Chaleur Humaine?
La vie sans amour et amitie n'est pas gaie. Very attractive and good-looking Chinese guy, 40 y.o., with European background seeks under 45 y.o. GWM, GLM or GAM for dating, friendship or more. Into varied interests. NS, ND, HIV-, in good proportion. Please write (photo appreciated and returned) to Boxholder, PO Box 827, Brisbane 94005-0827 or call ★★2802.

Ball-Oriented Men
Wanted to help me explore my secret passion! You: in-shape, under 50, big balls; playful attitude is essential. Me: tall, in-shape, reasonably good-looking, 39, HIV+ (but this will be completely safe), no experience with this & little interest in actual pain, but I do have nice, fat nuts. Send photo (of you, not just your crotch), phone, and hot note to 41 Sutter St., #1215, SF 94104. Let's play ball!

I Love Christmas
Dogs, daily sex, hairy-chested men, romantic dinners at home, remodeling houses, train or ship vacations, classical/new age music. Good-looking GWM, 43, 185#, 6', very hairy, brown hair & eyes, Aries/Libra rising, HIV- Looking for GWM, 30-45 yrs. old, dark-haired, hairy chest, medium to small build, HIV- or +, financially and personally independent, nonsmoker. Let's get together to see if there is any chemistry between us. Call ★★2803.

Witam Polakow!
Bym chcial poznac chlopaka z Polski, kto ma wasy i jest, przede wszystkim, szczery. Wiek obojetny. Jesli ktos szuka przyjaciela, prosze napisac! Jestem przystojny i sympatyczny pochodzenia polskiego. VN, PO Box 30343, Phoenix, AZ 85046 or call ★★2804.

Life's Been Good
Great friends, interesting job, good health, nice place to live. There's just one thing I'm missing: you. you adorable thing. Let's dance all night, go to a concert, go kayaking, discuss life's ironies, eat sushi—whatever. This athletic, handsome, 29-year-old, 5'8", 140, seeks an honest, thoughtful, fit, HIV-, happy-go-lucky guy, 25-35, who doesn't take life too seriously. Write PO Box 14203, Berkeley 94704 or call ★★2805.

Desperately Seeking Buddyness
Hairy, G-T'd Spaniard seeks to meet other very hairy, bearded men for friendship and/or buddyness but will settle for uncomplicated sex and cuddling. I'm 37 y.o., 5'11", 157#, br/br, fin. sec. prof., healthy HIV+ 10 yr. survivor, not into drugs, smoking, drinking, bars, gym or sports. You respect those choices and are within 5 ± of myself (age, inches, ht.). GWM, blnd/red/s&p pref. Let's find out what else we have got to share. Drop a note: M.S., PO Box 14635, SF 94114.

Empathetic Professional
GWM, 63, 5'8", 165 lbs., HIV-, professional, likes movies, classical music, art, travel. Is kind, sensitive, empathetic. Looking for 35 + gay male for friendship and relationship. Please send letter and photo to BT Box DC70B or call ★★2806.

Serious About It
Recently found myself with time on my hands and no one to spend it with. Looking to meet an intelligent, handsome, in-shape, unpretentious GWM with a great sense of humor, 30-45. Prefer top sexually. Me: GWM, 36, 6'1", 185#, brown hair/eyes, HIV+, very healthy and in good shape, handsome (that's what others tell me). Tired of the bar scene. I enjoy films, the country, travel, quiet nights at home, good conversation, good friends, good food and good sex. Looking for a relationship of substance. Send letter and photo (I'll return) to BT Box DC71B or call ★★2807.

Guys! Sex! Videos!
If you answered this ad in the prior two issues, and got no response, my sincere apologies. Unforseen circumstances prevented a call back to voicemail. Goal: sex buddies, playmates, intimacy, male bonding through mutual sexual pleasures and fun experiences. Me: attractive, mature, 40ish appearance, GWM, 6', 175#, good body, tanned, gray/blond/military cut hair, pecs pierced, great cock, hot mouth/tongue for full body exploration, moustache, good kisser, very sexual, honest, sensuous, touch oriented, adventurous exhibitionist, Blow Buddies regular, oral connoisseur with an insatiable appetite to fully service cocks. HIV- (play safe, status irrelevant), enjoy wine, a beer, "poppers" and an occasional joint. You: GWM, 35+, "oral (getting great head) fixated," good looks, maintained body and appearance, "endowed," "masculine." Enjoy kissing, man-to-man touching, massage? Have a very hot erotic apt., sexually graphic male art work, and extensive porno library in Van Ness corridor of the City. Wipe-outs: misrepresentation, colognes, unclean. Well-hung, in shape, butch only, please. If you fit the general outline above, "What have you got to lose but your load?" Call ★★2808.

Big Dick
Neither required nor offered. Normal man is the measure of my things. This man is 46, 5'10", 160 lbs., HIV-. Thinning brown hair, very blue eyes. Professional type. Interests include mild exercise, reading (particularly psychology), people (including non-trivial conversation). I am ND, occasional smoker. I like all people, races. I am actually "emotionally available." You should select yourself, younger or older. Should be normally intelligent (abnormally dumb OK). P.S. I cook only peanut butter sandwiches. 537 Jones St., #8778, SF 94102 or call ★★2809.

Are You Submissive And Adventurous?
Need instruction, obedience training, verbal kink, bondage, spankings? Need behavior modification for mind and body? Looking for a stable environment? Need to find a masculine, aggressive dad or master, responsible and affectionate? Over 18, nonsmoker, no drugs, with a "yes, sir" attitude. For total commitment to this unique lifestyle, Boxholder, PO Box 2771, Livermore 94551 or call ★★2810.

Wanted: Tall Bottom On The Peninsula
Black guy, top, 34, 5'10", 196 lbs., well-built, friendly, assertive, easygoing. Looking for a tall bottom buddy for discreet, infrequent and safe get-togethers. No hard and fast requirements, but 6'2" and taller, 195 lbs.+, head together, great legs are pluses. Fairly busy; if you have no serious interest, please do not waste your time or mine. R., PO Box 60774, Sunnyvale 94088.

Flesh And Spirit
I am interested in ethnic dance, world beat music, country living w/horses, sexual intimacy and fun. You be: physically active, handsome, androgynous, mellow stoner guys. I am same. All races, 30-40 yrs., 5'9"-6'2", 150-180 lbs., photo appreciated. Me: 5'9", 150 lbs., brn eyes, long brn hair, HIV+. Call ★★2812.

Attention: Chubby-Relaters
GWM, 49, 6', 265 lbs. (a chubby, but not dedicated to it), successful technical writer looking for what I hope will turn into a long-term relationship. I'm well-educated, intelligent, funny, optimistic, HIV-, mostly sane, and not into pain. Or tobacco smoke. I love my dog, my house, Star Trek, stamps, coins, telephone cards and Amsterdam. You are 40 to 55, weight proportionate to height, bright, optimistic, HIV-, like dogs and Amsterdam, not into pain, don't smoke tobacco, and have LTR in mind. Everything else (including the unspoken) is negotiable. Write 5214-F Diamond Heights Blvd., Box 820, SF 94131 or call ★★2813.

ADventure + CHemistry =
... a cute and masculine guy into "innocent" explorations, friendship, great adventures and possible LTR. The result of my chemistry quest should equal someone just as cute on the inside as on the outside, an honest guy under 31 who's ready for an adventure of his own. Smooth and slim types earn extra points. I'm 32, 6'1", 165#, blond/blue, very outgoing and kinda intense. C'mon, let's find out how much fun science can really be! Reply BT Box DC72B or call ★★2814.

Asian
Caring GAM, mid-40s, 5'7", slim, attractive, nonsmoker/drinker, affectionate, honest, easygoing, with quiet lifestyle, seeks older GWM for possible relationship. My interests include music, travel, gardening, photography. Photo appreciated and returned. Write: J., 537 Jones St., #2234, SF 94102.

Slim Asian Wanted
Sincere, caring WM, young for 44, 6'2", 174 lbs., trim, cleanshaven, blue eyes, HIV-, teacher of ESL, seeks very slim Asian male for sincere friendship or possible lover. Prefer 18-33, nonsmoker. Plus if foreign-born, enjoy exercise, dislike bars. Let me buy you lunch or treat you to a movie. (No pressure.) Reply Boxholder, PO Box 210202, SF 94121.

Wanted
Young man, single & free, will not accept a trainee. If you know who you are and can be a complement to a 44-yr-old professional, who seeks companionship, friendship and free-spirited enthusiasm, then this GBM says let's meet. I am not into fantasy or sponsoring the unemployed, but do like dreamers who turn thoughts into action. I do best with romantics who believe life is about something other than themselves. Please include phone # for a faster response, but I will answer all inquiries from all interested parties. No BS. BM/HM encouraged, ages to 45, employment a must unless student; type of employment unimportant. Reply to: Boxholder, PO Box 1342, Oakland 94604-1342 or call ★★2815.

Seeking Leather Buddies
Athletic, 5'11", 185 lbs., good-looking, nice body. Young-looking 39 y.o. Intelligent, mostly vegetarian, workaholic accountant. With much difficulty, learning country-western dance—more classes required before trying this in the clubs. Seeking buddies to cruise leather bars on weekends. Enjoy dominant, confident men. Relationship possible but not immediately considered. North Bay resident—commuting not a problem for me. Call ★★2816.

Such A Deal!
Active, curious, easygoing, shy, masculine, recently retired QWM academic, sensual and caring, seeking AM to share home and life—a comfortable, pleasant life—and for friendship, affection and fun. You: honest, sincere, active mind and curiosity, caring and kind heart. Me: the same and 6', 198#, HIV-. I enjoy books, music, outdoors, long walks, cooking, brewing, theater, travel, quiet times at home and in garden. Letter/photo (returned) to Box 102, 3181 Mission St., SF 94110 or call ★★2817.

Cal Grad Student, 25
6'2", 200, brown/hazel, good-looking, athletic, seeks similarly inclined men for friendship and perhaps more. Interests include: basketball, tennis, bridge and illuminating conversation. Call ★★2818.

8 Seeks 4
Supportive, stable, educated, successful 8 (31, Latin, br/br, beard, physical, handsome, green-thumbed, creative) seeks normal-to-healthy 4, 27-37, who paints, sculpts, writes, plays, acts or creates in other ways, is physically attractive, and has auto. No post-puberty drag drama, 2s, or 7s. NS. Mid-Pen a plus, but not a prerequisite. Reply BT Box DC73B or call ★★2819.

The Absolute Truth
This is from one attractive 30-something GWM to another. I'm tired of being alone and have decided to treat myself for Christmas. I want to be available now for that special man in my life. I am HIV-, attractive, in-shape & an honest, warm, loving man to be with. I don't have any special magical slogans that'll make you care! That, you'll have to do on your own. So go ahead. Call, hear my words and let them reach your heart! Reply BT Box DC74B or call ★★2820.

Masculine Men Wanted
For friendship. I've been here almost 2 yrs. and I still don't have the real friendship I want. I'd like to find someone you can count on, to have fun with, go to theater, movies, etc. I'm 30, 5'11", 170#, attractive, caring, sincere, etc. I'm also very healthy HIV and I plan to stay with. Let's get together. Life's too short. Tell me what you like! Call ★★2821.

Dedicated Partner, Reliable Friend
Enneagram 4 (5 wing), INFP, seeks soulmate/LTR. We value: mutual respect, spiritual intimacy, balance, disciplined thought, integrity, healthy lifestyles, self-awareness, altruism, home, nature, intuition, classical music(-making), shared journeys, the unknown, emotional availability, roads less traveled, deep feelings, inner exploration/growth, kindred spirits, tolerance, animals, higher self, singing, spontaneity, growing old together, inner child, uniqueness, new approaches, walks, teachers, sensitivity. GWM, 5'7", 123#, adaptable 46. Call ★★2822.

Heart To Heart
Handsome wheelchair guy, finishing law school and becoming a lawyer, buying a home, seeks the best in life. I would like an intelligent, well-brought up and athletic, spiritual guy, high self-esteem and a big heart, to share my love and happiness within as complete and monogamous a way as possible. If you enjoy living life to the fullest and you are not afraid of a disability, or are not jaded by homophobia, let's meet. PO Box 4607, Berkeley 94704 or call ★★2823.

Teddy Bear Dad Seeks Relationship
My arms hold what the world lacks. Me: shy, honest, sincere. GWM, attractive, 43, 6'5", 280 lbs., football-players build, moustache, hairy chest & stomach. You: attractive, GWM, 21-35, slim build with nice buns. Loyalty a must. Sexual interests include ass massage and light spanking. Hugs and kisses come first. Good kisser a plus. Call ★★2824.

Lean Body, Keen Mind
I'm bright, fun, creative, dark blond, 5'9", slim build, youthful good looks (appear mid-30s), cleanshaven, nonsmoker, HIV-. Interests in fiction, improv, cultural politics, outdoors. Self-awareness and a willingness to deal with differences are more important to me than having all the same opinions or interests. I'd like to meet a few guys for dating who are self-confident, spontaneous and playful. I see a relationship as a shared journey, supporting and challenging one another on a path of mutual growth. Please send photo with letter about yourself! Reply BT Box DC75B.

To Grow Together
I'm interested in meeting a man for a long-term relationship—someone who is in his late-40s to late-50s, fit, healthy, handsome (by your own measure) and successful in life (by your own measure). I've had 2 significant relationships in my life & know that sharing one's life is better than being alone. My nature is quiet but intense, and my hobbies are photography, swimming and computers. No sex initially; I want it to develop from the relationship. Reply BT Box DC76B or call ★★2825.

Change For The Better
I think it's time for a change. Time to stop being so serious and have some fun. Dating, dinner, movies, clubs and whatever comes next. Last time I placed an ad I wound up with mutant freaks! Try, try again. If you are an attractive, 23-35, wt/ht proportionate, funny, intelligent and passionate man let's get together. I'm 25, 5'9", 160#, handsome and in great shape GM. Come on, let's have some fun. Call ★★2826.

"Alternative" Couple
Hot couple, 23 and 32, seeks boys to play with. We are very playful, versatile and hot. Pierced and tattooed grunge boys especially encouraged to come and have fun. We're both pierced—one is very pierced and tattooed. Please don't respond if you're not into it. You be: hot, fun, and sober enough for a hot time. No attitude. No drugs. Call ★★2827.

HIV+ Bearded Daddy Sought
By bearded bottom, 5'6", blond, hairy, tattooed, 140 lbs., Irish, 37 y.o., HIV+. Retired from banking, looking for furry, playful top for regular time together. Like opera, food, foreign films, birds, leather, knitting, goofiness, puns. Live Santa Cruz but willing to travel the distance. Call ★★2828.

Mistletoe For Two
Congenial East Bay GWM with friendly smile, life/self together seeks quality man in liking, loving, real friendship—LTR. I'm masculine, sensitive, handsomely sexy 40s, bearded, 5'10", trim, tan, moderately hairy, blue eyes, sensual barefeet. No alcohol/ND. Need intimacy/closeness. Am setting/achieving goals, always there for others, and sincerely desire a very special friend. Under mistletoe alone? E.B. preferred. Reply BT Box DC77B or call ★★2829.

Man To Man
Husky hairy bear to meet others to play around. I'm 35, moustache & short black hair. Please reply BT Box DC78B or call ★★2830. I'm versatile sexually.

Let's Fall In Love
Afraid of intimacy? So am I. But shouldn't we give it a chance? We meet, have great sex & then go our separate ways. Sure, relationships aren't easy. But isn't love great? I'm very affectionate, handsome, masculine, caring, romantic, 5'11", 170 & a nice butt! Looking for same in a top. I like theater, bowling, going to movies & hopefully you! What do you like? Call me. Call ★★2831.

No Fancy Titles, No Catchy Phrases —Just Me!
How many ads will you go through over & over again, before you realize: this one is the special one! I'm a handsome, 37-year-old, HIV- GWM who is a determined and dedicated individual and holds monogamy & trust dear to his heart. I know what I want & who I want to share my heart with. He's got to be 30 + GWM in good physical shape, attractive (clean-cut looking) & have a heart of gold that I can see when we meet! He'll want a great catch like me & I him. He'll not believe in fairy tales, but still believe in magic. He will call my ad, hear my voice and hear with his heart too! Then maybe, just maybe, he'll become mine! Reply BT Box DC79B or call ★★2832.

Motorcycles, Backpacking, Hiking
Are some of the passions of this 33-year-old bearded GWM, 6'2", 175, brown/blue, who seeks a similar "out" GWM to build a relationship with. I'm also a nonsmoker, HIV-, fit (but not a gym person!) and fairly masculine. PO Box 51113, Palo Alto 94303 or call ★★2833.

Energetic, Searching, Real
GWM, 35, 6', 165, HIV-, handsome (so they say), trimly athletic, big smile, tactile, visual. I'm an architect who likes to travel, sunbathe nude at the beach, hike in exotic places, meditate a little. Mostly I'm just a guy trying to find more and more fun, relaxation, peace, spontaneity, honesty and emotion. I'm looking for comrades and a life partner who are jazzed by the new, the challenging, the inner and outer, the truth, shared enjoyment and discovery. You: respect your body and spirit, are healthy, between 32 and 42. Call ★★2834.

Boy Next Door
This affectionate, nicely built, clean-cut, straight-looking, unpretentious, 29 y.o., HIV-, 5'6", 140#, GWM seeks similar GWM/GAM who's intelligent, confident, in good shape, and perhaps civil libertarianly inclined. I tend to socialize in smaller groups, and prefer good conversation over dinner to the bar scene. I also like biking, people-watching, reading in bed, the Simpsons, bookstores, and people who laugh at my ironic jokes. Pluses: blond hair, boxer shorts. Minuses: facial hair, drugs other than caffeine. Call ★★2835.

Nude Massage
South Bay mature WM enjoys working with horny healthy sexbuddies with his strong hands and talented tongue. Safe, fun, oral, no Greek. I'm 58, bald, HIV-, 165 lbs., 5'10". I am bisexual, married, and can not entertain at home or receive calls. Leave voicemail message with your phone and I'll return call. Write B., PO Box 907, Fremont 94537 or call ★★2836.

Looking For LTR
GWM, 6 feet, 170 pounds. Attractive, youthful 40s, with trim, gym-toned body. HIV-, NS, ND, seeks similar for LTR. Interests include gym workouts, movies and quiet evenings at home with one, special person. Please be masculine, have a decent body, average looks or better and be seriously interested in forming a long-term, very special relationship. Call ★★2837.

Looking For Romance—Still!
Me: 40, 5'11", 175 lbs., dark hair, moustache. I enjoy country, disco, movies, Giants, A's, 49ers, cuddling, sex, holding hands, kissing, gym. Considered attractive and I am attracted to guys with similar interests and gym-toned bodies. Gym is a must! Age, height, etc. is unimportant. I'm a good catch, but there is one catch. I am HIV+. Want to meet for coffee or a drink? Call ★★2838.

U Want This?
Hot-lookin', 22 y.o., Mexican w/model looks, 6', 145#, East Bay. Prefer Caucasian moaners & groaners. Into oral, hot showers, lotsa lube, lotsa makin', sleeping after... video? I'm HIV-, helluva dancer, smoker, gotta positive attitude. Love Johnny Utah. No instant marriages or sugar daddies; good clean sweaty fun, maybe more. No flames, twigs or Uncle Festers! 2 young 2 be taken seriously... U decide! Call ★★2839.

Hispanic Topman
GWM, 41, bottom, Italian, good-looking, gym-toned—works out at World's—likes Hispanic men, those who work out, any age, top. Call or write. Reply BT Box DC80B or call ★★2840.

Bondage
Just isn't enough anymore. Daddy/master is 5'10", 150, 40s, salt and pepper, handsome, uncut Italian dick. Seeks boy/slave in 30s or 20s, who is trim, submissive. D/M wants to experiment with different types of torture on boy's tits, ass. Whipping possible. Bootlicking required (D/M wears engineer's). D/M is sane, but sadistic. Written responses only, to show you are serious. Reply BT Box DC81B.

Very Handsome, Passionate & Lots Of Fun...
Looking for more than just sex. 6 ft., black hair, brown eyes, clean-cut/shaven, Portuguese-Italian, work out, 30 y.o., professional, evil sense of humor, likes dancing, symphony, socializing and some quiet times with the right person. I am wild at heart and have not tried monogamy yet. You: under 35, no moustache/beard; handsome and trim a must; open-minded, great sense of humor and not uptight. Call ★★2841.

Lonely In Winter
GWM, Oakland Hills, professional, 47, 185, 6'3", HIV-, with beard, seeks similar, tall, hairy, 40-50, 150-190#, nonsmoker, light drinker, no drugs for activities companion and possible LTR. You enjoy good conversation, walking, local travel, coupon dinners, nonviolent movies, quality theater, comedy clubs and be open-minded spiritually. Prefer East Bay-West County, San Francisco OK. Call ★★2842.

A Good Catch Deserves Another
Good-looking, accomplished, classy Asian (30, good shape, HIV-), looking to meet other young, hard-working, liberal-minded indivduals (Asian/Caucasian/?) with whom to develop long-lasting friendships or relationships. I enjoy all the finer things in life and yet I also value the little things that make life memorable, everything from culture, books, concerts, to films, travel, and great sex. Be attractive, honest, compassionate, fun. Call ★★2843.

Livermore-Based
Very attractive, smooth & slim, 22 y.o., 5'11" Mexican seeks handsome, muscular, brunette GWM, over 6', 24-35. Turn-ons: romance, kissing, hairy chests, trucks, baseball hats, cops & yuppies (not prerequisites). Turn-offs: baldness, slenderness, 1-track-minds, mindgames & drug-abusers. Seeking confident guy who knows where his priorities are, including wanting a trusting, monogamous lifetime commitment with someone who makes you feel like you're all that truly matters in the world. Call ★★2844.

Seeking Playmate
GWM, 41, 6', 165 lbs., HIV-, trim, gym-toned, short-cropped hair, caring, affectionate, very oral, nipples/titplay advocate, sexually versatile, eclectic interests, comfortable home, well-traveled and self-employed. Insatiable appetite for touching, tasting, kissing, caressing—looking for another man to partake of the sensual/sexual realm. Goal: sex buddies/playmates, hot mouth/tongue for full body exploration, touch oriented, Blow Buddies regular OK. Sleepovers a must. Seeking sexual friendship that's something more than a one-night stand and short of moving in! If you're between the ages of 35-45 and this sounds like you, call now. Call ★★2845.

Bearded Cocksucker Wanted
Could you go for a fun evening a few times a month? Well, I'm looking for you. I am a 48-year-old, blue-eyed, blond man (HIV-) that works in SF and am inviting you out for a relaxing dinner, providing you want me for dessert, or an appetizer. You must have a deep throat and be open to ongoing visits. Call ★★2846.

Armpit & Crotch Hair
Turn me on and make me want to lick with enthusiasm. Especially like hair on masculine Black and Asian men. Am 38, white, gdlkg, fit, HIV-. Your place, HIV- and masculine only. Very hairy pits are the best... No hassle fun only. Call ★★2847.

Are You Romantic And Latin Enough For This Redhead?
I am seeking a handsome Latin, w/gym body, romantic, sensuous, intelligent, versatile top, HIV+, 25-40, no smoke/drink/drugs, playful, good sense of humor. Me: red hair/bl, attractive, clean-cut outside/slightly wild inside, HIV+/healthy, 5'11", 160#, 35, good shape, like: daily exercise, laughing, being outside, music, movies, holding hands, cuddling, candlelight, kissing and more. Casual dating, LTR possible. Call ★★2848.

Moustached Hot White Man Wanted
By handsome & hot married AM, 30s, moustache, tall, 160 lbs. & versatile for steady, discreet, safe & sweaty fun in daytimes on weekdays. You be 30 to 40, hot, masculine & muscular. No strings. Try to call me at ★★2849 or rush your letter & photo (returned) to PO Box 641372, SF 94164-1372. Can I buy you coffee?

Seeking Mature Asian Lover
GWM, 5'9", 130 lbs., 55, looks 45, attractive professional with a good heart is seeking a gay Asian male, 40 to 55, who wants a loving, long-term relationship, to share life's joys and divide life's burdens. I am very affectionate and I truly love Asian people. I have lots to offer if you are: slim, HIV-, very affectionate and want to love and be loved. Call ★★2850.

Oh Come: Let Me Adore You...
May an attractive, late-40s GWM, healthy HIV+,

If you see an ad with "Call ★★" dial 1-900-844-2GAY

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6', 165 lbs., with s/p beard, big nipples, even bigger grin, and a hair-challenged head, bring you joy this time of year? Great BJ skills which, in the spirit of the season, I willingly offer to gentlemen in need... Not husband hunting, simply seeking an affable fella with respectable anatomy for the coming rainy season. Reply BT Box DC82B or call ★★2851.

I'm Hairy, Husky & Humorous
GWM, 39, 5'10", 190 lbs., balding, with moustache, seeks attractive guy, 20 to 30, for possible relationship. I enjoy bicycling, films, sci fi, nature & safe, versatile sex. I like quiet times—not into bars. I'm masculine-looking & acting, have brown hair, hazel-green eyes. I like comedy too! Call ★★2852.

Apartment To Share
Ex-hippie aspiring Yuppie (not), desperately dislikes living alone. Seeking loving, supportive bed/lifemate. I am a 45 y.o. GWM, HIV-, 5'11", 180 lbs., looking for over-35-year-old top guy, any race, also HIV-. I value honesty, loyalty, humor and supportive intimacy. I am especially interested in the arts, liberal politics, plants and road trips. I have everything but you. All communication appreciated and photos returned, or phone box #. Reply BT Box DC83B or call ★★2853.

I Dream Of You...
Very handsome Italian WM, 27, black hair, brown eyes, smooth, nonpretentious, well-educated, masculine, romantic, beautiful poet's heart, beautiful gymnast's body, 5'9", 155. I am sincere, intelligent, sensual, energetic. Love music, art, films, writing, exercise, nature, your company. Looking for sincere, nonpretentious, non-attitude, masculine, passionate, educated, very handsome WM, 18-40, with mind, body and soul. Letter, picture (returned) a plus and appreciated. Reply BT Box DC84B or call ★★2854.

Christmas Romance Wanted
Christmas is my favorite time of year. It would be nice to spend it with a very masculine, handsome, very affectionate, romantic Italian! But I'm open to all other handsome studs. Besides the above, I am 5'11", 170#, br/bl, moustache, hot mouth, butt, etc. Looking for an aggressive top. I like theater, movies, bowling, romantic nights, etc. Are you ready for intimacy? You might not be sorry. Call ★★2855.

Fiery Redhead
I am fire. You are water. Seeking balance. I provide excitement, you afford gentleness. You win my heart with boundless romance. I win yours with passionate lovemaking. We are both: GWM, 25-35 (I'm 28), HIV-, NS, attractive, lean to athletic build. Let's warm each other's souls and ease the weight of winter. Call ★★2856.

HIV+ Latin Top Wanted
Capricorn, Virgo or Scorpio only. Needs moustache; husky, tattoos, mota are pluses. Blond, blue, 31, 6 feet, 190, seeks cuddle-monster to play house. Call ★★2857.

"A Faithful Friend Is A Sturdy Shelter..."
... He who finds one finds a treasure." GWM academic, 39, 5'9", 170, br/gr, cleanshaven, masculine. My friends describe me as someone who is strong, gentle, wise, humorous, romantic and communicative. I want to explore sexual and spiritual intimacy with the right guy, age 30-45. I tend to like men with medium builds and dark hair, but am open to all. Wide-ranging interests include politics, spirituality, music, movies, swimming, hiking, reading and travel. If you are a special man looking for love with a quality guy, please reply to BT Box DC85B or call ★★2858.

Piano-Playing Romantic
Do you own a piano? If you do and if you are GWM, mid-30s, relatively handsome & attractive romantic, I want to hear from you. I too love the romance of hearing my special guy playing the piano, while I stand behind rubbing his shoulders. Enjoying the warmth of those special moments. I am of the same and have a great deal of love & compassion for him—where are you now? Call me, baby. I want you in my life. Reply BT Box DC86B or call ★★2859.

And Now For Something Completely Different
I can go out and meet guys for fucking/sucking sex. My difficulty is meeting guys for dirty talk, jack-off, drinking/partying one-on-one scenes. Let's get together, 10-11 pm, my place (Oakland), share partying costs (50/50). Musts: mutual dirty talk, jerk-off, cock/ball worship, getting high. Must nots: be shaved, videos, toys, fuck, suck. Man-to-man, buddy-to-buddy cock worship at its best. Age, size, looks unimportant. Call ★★2860.

Don't Ask, Don't Tell
He doesn't. I don't. A simple domestic policy when it comes to my desire for a sexual friendship outside my very LTR. If you can be comfortable with my situation and would like to get together on a fairly regular basis, then drop a line to a warm and very friendly guy. I would like to meet someone over 35 who is affectionate, very oral and has some hair on his chest. I am GWM, 44, 5'8", 140, lean/smooth, cute/good-looking, HIV-. Photo appreciated and will be returned/exchanged. Serious only please. Reply BT Box DC87B.

Genuine Guy
GWM, 40, short, muscular, hazel/blue eyes, brown hair, average to good-looking, seeks genuine GMs (any race) with compatible and complementary qualities for friendship and potential LTR. I am open, honest, intelligent, well-educated, independent, individualistic, sensitive, shy. Into personal growth, movies, reading, travel, exercise, eating out and prefer youthful, health-conscious men. Please write: Boxholder, PO Box 194481, SF 94119-4481 or call ★★2861.

Man Seeks Romance
Late-30s GWM seeks affection and romance from a low maintenance man. I love to read, hate to cook, and would rather talk business than party. More East Coast than West, my education and career occupy most of my time and, while I am very pleasant, I am also easily bored. I think that I appreciate beauty but my DNA doesn't include the interior decorator gene. I exercise throughout the week, am 5'6" tall, and weigh about 145 pounds. The optimal candidate is in very good physical shape, taller, muscular, well-educated, 30-45, HIV- and lives near San Francisco. He doesn't smoke cigarettes and doesn't need therapy. Artistic sensibility and cooking skills are nice but not a prerequisite because the city provides the splendor and many good restaurants. Call or write. Reply BT Box DC88B or call ★★2862.

The Sex Was Great, But...
What's important to me is not the tan, the bulging muscles, or the Marky Mark good looks, but those things that run deeper. My "perfect you" would like quiet, candle-lit dinners at home, spending time with friends, dancing (I'm even willing to learn C/W), the theater, the tactile dome at the Exploratorium, and would not be afraid of crying during a movie. Don't be intimidated by the list, many variations are perfectly acceptable. I'm 29, 5'7", 135#, bl/bl, honest, good sense of humor, sensitive, sincere & financially stable. I'm ultimately searching for that one special person (I haven't abandoned the hope of your existence) but also look forward to the many people I will meet along the way. Call ★★2863.

New Year's Present
Are you young? Slim? Either would be great. I can offer you a fun-loving, social, well-employed, HIV-, 43 y.o., 195 lb., active person who is looking for anything from friendship to a serious relationship. Why am I using an ad? Because I'm otherwise too busy and have no inclination to the casual or quick relationship. Reply BT Box DC89B or call ★★2864.

I Can't Stand The Rain
At least not if I have someone to share a rainy day with. Attractive GBM, 36, 5'8", slender, mellow and wanting to meet non-affected Asian or Latin, HIV+ (?) men, 25-38, for friendship or whatever develops. Personal integrity is a must, other statistics negotiable. Call ★★2865.

Long Hair And Lean...
... And the further from the mainstream, the better: if you value experiences over things, minimize consumption, and instinctively bypass the morass of fashion; if you're under 40, long-haired, lean and self-sufficient—maybe you'd enjoy discreet weekly dates with me: intelligent, understanding, toppish, 6'2", 52, 168#, activist, in-shape. Let's share feelings no one imagines, support each other exploring further out, and savor affectionate, sticky sex. Reply BT Box DC90B or call ★★2866.

Hairy Men
W/moustache/beard, NS, stocky tops sought by tall graybeard. Not looking for a puppy or instant love—just be normal. I appear aloof and toppish (I'm quiet & a bottom), 37, 185, gray/hazel, tall w/glasses sometimes. Please be 32-42, 5'7" or more. 175 or more. Letter/photo to BT Box DC91B or call ★★2867.

For All Seasons
Romantically inclined GWM desires dating relationship with GAM. Friends first, intimate loving relationship evolves. Me: independent & seeking intimacy. Healthy, wholesome good looks, clean-cut, friendly, caring, considerate & affectionate, open-minded and sensitive with others, 5'10", 160, brn hair, blue eyes, great shape, physically active. Act & appear younger, NS, ND, little alcohol. You: under 40, responsible & caring, warm personality. Sincere. Prefer in-shape, active partner, but a big heart, cute smile & sweet man wins me over. We may have similar interests such as movies, music, eating out, working out, the outdoors. But differences arouse and keep my curiosity. I want to hear from you. Let's invest some time and learn about one another. And have fun doing it! Reply BT Box DC92B or call ★★2868.

I Like To Watch, Be Watched
I am a 40 y.o., European, short, 5'5", in good shape, hairy legs, ass, nice cut dick. You are any age, healthy, in-shape, hairy below the waist. Reply PO Box 640361, SF 94164-0361 or call ★★2869.

Renaissance Man
This WM is likeable, honest, solid, sensual, handsome with a muscular hairy chest. Lots of interests... sometimes intellectual... always curious. Searching for someone to play with and be close to. I'm late-30s, HIV-, NS, wide smile, sexy eyes. You have a lean-to-muscular body, a nicely developed chest that likes lots of attention, love deep kissing, have a good personality, sane and unaffected. Call ★★2870.

To Touch Spirit & Body
Sincere, friendly, professional and looking to exchange massages and possibly friendship. This 5'10", 165#, GWM, likes the outdoors and spending quiet evenings with someone special sharing a meal, trading massages or playing cards; likes quiet jazz and classical music; likes to dance but still needs lessons in CW. You: 40+, sincere, fun-loving, race unimportant, slim to med. build, ND, NS. Exchange, PO Box 14065, SF 94114 or call ★★2871.

Active Man Sought
By SF WM. Tall, skinny, avg looks, glasses, balding, early-40s, HIV-, active. Do you hike, bike, play tennis, car-camp, backpack, ski, snowboard, hang glide? Are you over 30, reasonably fit, healthy, sane, able to laugh, drug/tobacco-free, available for LTR? Write BT Box DC93B or if you must call ★★2872.

New Year's Eve Is My Birthday
I want to spend it with a strong, muscled, very hairy, bearded bear. I'm 5'8", 155, 40 (till 12/31), goateed, very hairy, smart, funny, muscled, tough; into working out, pinball, pro-style NHB wrasslin', sweaty hairy men who love swapping bearhugs, body punching, chestwork, cock-n-ball tugging, licking. You're my size or bigger, very hairy, love to sweat, and free all day 12/31. Call ★★2873.

Thirsty For...
Smooth skin, young, cute, sensual Asian boy desiring absolute attention from modern man. Ruggedly handsome, healthy, toned, firm, 6', 170 lb., Euro-American w/blue-green eyes, brown wavy hair and big sexual fantasies. I look good w/my clothes on but "way more better" stark naked. Play with my fantasies or entertain yours. Photo exchange requested, guaranteed return. 537 Jones, #2226, SF 94102 or call ★★2874.

No Catchy Title, Just Read On
I seem to have good friends, but I really want a relationship (friends first of course!). I'm 23, Latin, look white, 5'8", 130 lbs., financially and emotionally secure, OK-looking, but not a god. You're Asian, thin, average to good-looking, sincere, honest, maybe shy, like movies, dancing and Disneyland, and under 30. Am I too specific? There must be someone! Call ★★2875.

Winter Boyfriend
GHM, HIV+, healthy, 26 y.o., 5'11", 155#, cleanshaven, toned, handsome, health-conscious, light drinking, NS, ND. Some enjoyments: retro tunes, city life, dayhikes, camping, films, cuddling, romance and passionate kissing. Personality traits: sincere, playful, wicked sense of humor, honest, youthful, and realistic expectations. U B Caucasian w/similar age, interest and proportions for dating and possible LTR. Call ★★2876.

Unique, Good-Looking Youngster Seeks Attractive Middle-Aged Man
I'm a new arrival here, 27, 6'1", 159#, athlete with very cute bottom and satin smooth natural tan skin. I'm also multi-talented with a high self-esteem as success breeds self-confidence. Most men find me desirable, but only handsome, middle-aged men (53-65), who are also masculine, mature, smart, refined and somewhat distinguished from the average, attract me. So if you think we have some things in common, call ★★2877.

Slim And Like To Spank?
Sincere WM (young looks for), 43, 6'2", trim, nice

THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN...
...by Eric Orner.
...THIS WAS BACK WHEN YOUR OLDEST, ETHAN, WAS INVOLVED WITH THIS "CIRQUE DU SOLEIL" PERFORMER, AN ACROBAT, OR CLOWN, OR SOMETHING. THE TWO OF THEM VISITED OVER THE HOLIDAYS.
THANK YOU.. EM... FOR BIRTHING EETHON WHOM I..LIKE THEE..EM..BIG SEX WITH..
YOU'REWELCOME.
SEE, DIDN'T I TELL YOU HE WAS WONDERFUL
THEY MOVED IN TOGETHER ALMOST IMMEDIATELY (YOU HAD MIGRAINES FOR A MONTH), YOU'D VISITED THEIR CONDO, BUT STILL COULDN'T SHAKE THE NOTION THAT THEY LIVED IN A FLEUR-DE-LIS SHAPED TRAILER.
PERSONALLY, YOU THOUGHT THIS RELATIONSHIP WAS "NUTS" OR "FOR THE BIRDS" DEPENDING ON WHICH DAY YOU WERE ASKED, WHICH YOU NEVER WERE.
THE WORST PART WAS THAT SHEILA, WHO YOU KNEW FROM PFLAG MEETINGS, HAD AN UNATTACHED SON NAMED MILES, (YOU THINK) WHO WAS SOME SORT OF DOCTOR, A PODIATRIST MAYBE, AND HAD GIVEN YOU HIS PHONE NUMBER FOR ETHAN... NOT THAT ETHAN WOULDN'T RATHER STICK NEEDLES IN HIS EYES THAN CONSENT TO BEING FIXED UP ON A DATE BY HIS MOTHER. STILL, MAYBE YOU'D JUST DIG THE NUMBER OUT OF YOUR POCKETBOOK...
MILES. WAVE
GET A GRIP MOM. WHY WOULD I EVEN CONSIDER GOING OUT WITH SOME UROLOGIST WHEN I'M IN LOVE WITH PAOLO, HERE.. ..SHEESH...
SHEESH
RUMAGE RUMAGE

smooth buns, HIV-, seeks slim brother, stepdad or frat master to administer sound spankings (hand or strap). Plus if Asian or foreign born; others very welcome, too. Prefer nonsmoker, non-bar type, who seeks possible ongoing friend. Other interests: massage, exercise, movies, sincere friendship. Reply Boxholder, PO Box 14794, SF 94114.

Yellow + Blue

Healing colors, me environmentalist, lover of men (and donuts), vegetarian, ethnic, capricorn, child abuse survivor, spiritual, loving, 20, 5'8", 145#, fff-ine, honest, groovy, sweet as pie (blueberry), intimate, serious, HIV-, art student, in therapy (who isn't?), trying to deal, life is hard (so am I), no games, looking for LTR with you, and your cat, and lemon herbal tea, ASL literate, you—30 and under, NS, ND. Reply BT Box DC124B or call ★★2878.

Gym-Toned Mind

From the mental gymnastics of human relations and I've pulled a muscle! Looking for a different kind of workout with a GAM. Hairless Calvin Klein hardbody I'm not—I am handsome, trim, compassionate, universal; and my mind is still functional and my heart isn't in hiding. I have some love and friendship to share; if you do, and desire mutually nourishing intimacy, how about a note or call? GWM, 34, 5'10", 150 lbs. We're HIV- and close in age. "Ooh, and on you run... you search for love and you hate searching. You wait for love... and you hate waiting... You say, 'I hate this!' " Reply BT Box DC94B or call ★★2879.

A Real Lover

GAM, engineer, 32, 5'8", 150, sincere, honest, humorous, open-minded, caring and knowledgeable. NS, ND, looking for friendship/relationship. South Bay preferable. PO Box 2009, Santa Clara 95055-2009 or call ★★2880.

Good-Looking Straight Type

GWM, 39, 6'1", 200, brown/green, not into gay life. Exception to what you have met. Seeks similar good-looking, masculine, relationship-oriented, genuine great guy, 35+. Must be beautiful inside, free-spirited & romantic. Call ★★2881.

New Moon

Are you any combination/permutation of the following? Athletic, naturally well-built or a BB, 5'7"-5'11", 160-200#, big/beefy or lean/hard, basically smooth, with average endowment. Blue collar Italian, Irish, etc., with wide, square hands and feet, thick toes and fingers. Or a blue-eyed cowboy with great legs and hunky shoulders. I am 5'8", 150#, 43 yrs. old, HIV-, s/p-br/br, blue collar Italian, slender/muscular, work out, nice face and body, 7" cut, smart, with a wide range of sexual interests/experience from vanilla to serious kink. Looking for satisfying safe sex with someone stocky and sturdy. Type of sex not so important (but de-emphasize Greek), no strings required. Married, bi, straight OK. Let's talk. Call ★★2882.

Let's Get Naked

Attractive, friendly, boyish-looking GWM, 34 y.o., 5'8", 140#, dark blond hair, green eyes, clean-cut, hairy trim body, seeks handsome, muscular, independent topman for friends and fun. Reply w/photo (returned), Boxholder 99, 2300 Market St., SF 94114 or call ★★2883.

Closet Romantic

But not in the closet in other ways. Looking for someone to help bring my romantic self out of hiding (and it seems I won't find him in the bars!). Me: boyish GWM, 30 y.o., curly red hair, hazel eyes, 5'9", 160 lbs. Irish-American actor-singer-director by night, office-type guy by day, with an off-the-wall sense of humor. You: GWM, late-20s to early-40s, hair on your head but none on your face, 6' or shorter, slim to stocky build (short & stocky a definite +) with above average looks, sense of humor, and above all patience! I like a lot of cuddling and also some playful wrestling; and I definitely wouldn't mind spending a few platonic evenings in bed together. If you're into status, designer labels, or gym perfect bods (or if you can't tolerate show tunes) don't waste my time or yours by responding. If you'd like to have a good time and (hopefully) a fun, warm friendship and/or relationship, give me a try. Reply BT Box DC95B or call ★★2884.

From Guangzhou To Tokyo

GWM seeks GAM, mid-20s to mid-30s, for friend, companion, possible LTR. I am romantic, passionate, educated professional. You are independent, yet warm and affectionate. I am mid-40s, 5'8", 170 lbs., attractive, moustache. You are more interested in world travel or home cooking than in disco nights at the club. We both are sensitive yet worldly; shy yet adventurous. Call ★★2885.

Oh! C'mon, Take The First Step!

The rest will come very easily if the qualities are there for us both. You know you're good-looking—so am I—but we're not sluts. We can't let ourselves go home with anyone for one night! We want to be in a relationship; you know it and I know it. GWM, HIV-, mid-30s. We both know we're great catches and we both know a quality man when we meet one. I'm ready, available and Christmas won't be the same without you! It's not a sin to admit you're lonely. To met it's a shame to let pass by what could be the very best chance you'll have! Reply BT Box DC96B or call ★★2886.

Piercing Enthusiast

Looking for men interested in the eroticism and beauty of permanent body piercings. Seeking others for friendships and possible social group. Call ★★2887.

Sensual Match

Articulate, naturally masculine, 40 y.o. blond with a slenderly muscular, rangy 6'3", 168 lb., gym-toned body seeks honorable, deep, physically fit & clean-living gay or bi buddy. Inside my outgoing, energized exterior, I'm warmly attentive and prefer quiet interactions away from the masses. Offering and seeking affection, playfulness and passion, I prefer that our bodies' natural harmonies suggest our sexual positioning and not a script. You can be HIV-, + or not know, since responsible safety will reign supreme. Call ★★2888.

Forget Superman

I'm looking for Clark Kent. You know Clark; he's the shy, sweet, bumbling office type, who's got a heart of gold (& great build) underneath that stuttering exterior, but he's overlooked in favor of Superoaf. Architects, engineers, chemists, etc., take note! (Glasses a +). Me: I'm 5'10", 150, 39, Italian w/bright green eyes, the love-smitten copy boy over at *The Daily Planet*. Please call ★★2889.

I Know You're Out There

GBM, 29, 6'1", 170 lbs., new to Bay Area, cute, masculine, easygoing, like watching sports, going out and getting the most out of life. Seeks GWM, 25-40, who enjoys the same and more. For possible relationship. Photo a plus, but not necessary. Let's share a life together. Write to BT Box DC97B.

Little Guy—Big Cock?

You fit the saying that big surprises come in small packages, love showing off your big meat and enjoy the attention when guys admire that big dick on your little body. WM, late-40s, wants to worship your cock. Asians and Blacks a plus. PO Box 426655, SF 94142 or call ★★2891.

A Man-To-Man Christmas

In-shape bisexual WM, 30, seeks sexy gay man, 30-40, for deep, safe holiday drilling (or whatever). I am HIV-, 6'1", lean, muscled, longhair with warm mouth, beautiful fat cock and tight, hungry butt. Prefer "tough guy" biker or construction types with facial hair, tattoos, boots, etc. Your photo gets mine (all returned). Hey, guys, this is fun! Reply BT Box DC98B or call ★★2892.

Gayness Achieved?

Is being gay something that happens to someone or is it something actively achieved? With heart, mind and soul? This 45 y.o. GWM, 5'9", 155 lbs., HIV-, intelligent man wants to meet other men who have achieved or are achieving being gay. If you want just to meet a warm guy, that's fine too. Seek 30-55, all races. Reply BT Box DC99B or call ★★2893.

HIV+ Boyfriend

Wanted for romantic, hot, cuddly, passionate, gentle, sexy affair, consisting of city fun, country fun, all kinds of fun! You: handsome, muscular, 30-40, great kisser. Me: handsome GWM, 38, lean, muscular, great kisser. Us: happy, healthy, together, adventurous, steamy, magical, and desirous of living life to the fullest. If you're sexy and cool, call or write for a hot date now! Reply BT Box DC100B or call ★★2894.

Chunky Adventurous Types

Caucasian/Asian/Hisp./others who respond to an older man's embrace. A solid, reliable man who is sexually dominant, but extremely sensitive to your needs. Very outgoing personality, 58 yrs. old, 6 ft., 185 lbs. Body conscious, own gym, dark hair & moustache, French descent, retired architect, tell me your needs, your goals. Be adventurous! Reply BT Box DC101B or call ★★2895.

Confident And Hopeful

I feel ready for a long-term relationship. Therapy and meditation help me to feel emotionally ready; sweating at the gym makes me feel physically alive and attractive. It's tough, I know, to build a dedicated relationship. Still, I want to face my "stuff": do you? I turn 41 on Dec. 17, dark brown hair, blue-green eyes, 5'7", 150 lbs., sense of humor, involved in my profession, am a Ph.D. psychotherapist, love foreign films like *Joy Luck Club* and *Like Water for Chocolate*. Call ★★2896.

Flesh & Spirit

Can I get a date? Hippies, punks, radicals. I am 30 yrs. old, 5'9", 150 lbs., shoulder-length brn hair, brn eyes, racially mixed (Cherokee, Irish, Basque), handsome, healthy, androgynous, sexually versatile, HIV+. I enjoy dance, camping, bikes, horseback riding, beaches, parks & herbal medicine. I am interested in meeting physically active, joyful, handsome & healthy guys, any race, around my age and physical body type. Reply BT Box DC102B or call ★★2897.

Hold My Hand

There is nothing wrong with holding hands. I'm a gay man and damn proud. My 27 yrs on this planet has taught me that if you hide who you are, you get ulcers. Anyway, I like my coffee in the morning, movies on a big screen and stand-up live. I don't care if you're staight-acting, butch, nellie, queer or whatever—just be yourself. Now for the stats: 27 y.o. GJM, 6'1", 210 lbs., brown (receding), green, average build and HIV-. Call ★★2898.

Give This A Try

GWM seeking masculine Black male (gay or bi) for sexual encounters and possibly more. You are 38+, husky, nonsmoker, honest and verbal. Hairy, bearded, uncut are turn-ons, but not requirements. I am tall, lean, muscular, athletic, handsome, initially shy and eager to find the right guy for frequent or infrequent sessions. If you're curious and want to feel the touch of a good man, why not give it a try? Call ★★2899.

Heart To Heart

Handsome wheelchair guy, finishing law school and becoming a lawyer, buying a home, seeks the best in life. I would like an intelligent, well-brought up and athletic, spiritual guy, high self-esteem and a big heart to share my love and happiness within as complete and monogamous a way as possible. If you enjoy living life to the fullest and you are not afraid of a disability, or are not jaded by homophobia, let's meet. PO Box 4607, Berkeley 94704 or call ★★2900.

Boyfriend Available

You can bring me to the office or home to mom. Castro area GWM, 39, attractive, 5'6", 145, in-shape, brown hair/eyes, moustache, HIV+ offers intelligence, sense of humor, clear values, and self-esteem. I'm affectionate, empathetic, not intuitive. We're professionals, and both enjoy city activities, travel, romance and sex. You're 35-45, weight proportionate, HIV+, NS, ND. Want a relationship built on communication, trust and respect? Call ★★2901.

You Kick Back For Service

That explains it all. I'm basically only interested in meeting someone that enjoys kicking back for long sessions of oral service. You tell me where to lick and suck and that's what I'll do. We'll get as nasty as we want—explore. You should be under 45, nice firm body. No reciprocation, please. I'm handsome, Hispanic, 33 and eager to help you relax. Reply BT Box DC103B or call ★★2902.

Asian, Latin Or ?? ... Casual & Easygoing

Private & passionate "body and soul" (Orbison, Chaplin, Twilight Zone, philosophy, independent Christian/higher power, Moderate Pride, no heavy alcohol/drugs, versatile, video, etc.). I'm WM, 32, 5'9", 155#, hairy, cleanshaven, "good-looking." Seeking more serious Partner or just friends. Letter/photo? to: J.S., PO Box 640041, SF 94109-0041 or call ★★2903.

Wanted: Cuddlebuddy

Who wants to share more than just hot safe sex but not looking for a relationship. GWM, youthful 40, 6', 150, brown hair, versatile top, professional wants to share a variety of interests (movies, theater, dancing, dining in/out, massage, day trips, sleepovers) with other attractive, masculine, stable, white/African-American/Hispanic men, 30s to mid-40s, weight/height proportionate, NS, ND, HIV-. SF residents preferred. Reply BT Box DC104B or call ★★2904.

"Unpredictable"

Bi Asian dude, 29 yrs. old, 5'8", 140 lbs., black hair/brown eyes, very handsome, NS, LD, seeking other guys for friendship & fun. Interests: biking, camping, dining, theater, plays & classic movies (just to mention a few). Pls reply with a photo for immediate reply. Bi/married OK! To J.R., PO Box 6351, Concord 94512 or call ★★2905.

Starting The New Year Right

Not alone, that is. GWM, 31, 5'11", 160, br/bl, likes just about anything that gets me out of the house: clubs, parks, museums, streets, the country, the gym, whatever. I live/work/go to school in the East Bay. Seeking Latino man, 25-35, handsome, kind, fit, sense of humor, for dating, maybe more. HIV-, no heavy drinking/smoking. Call ★★2906.

Loveseat Facing Fireplace

Seats two. Join me? Happy, successful GWM—40, HIV-, confident, articulate, tall, lean, long legs—above average in looks, brains and balls seeks exceptional men who love getting plowed, for dating, mutual massage, hopefully LTR. Ability to examine life, find meaning, handle conflicts, discuss feelings crucial. Handsome face, muscular chest, chewable tits, baseball biceps—all pluses. Passions: writing, psychotherapy, movies, theater, cooking, day hikes, camping. ND, NS. Call ★★2907.

Kinky Party Guy

GWM, 30s, muscular, looking for others into partying, fantasies, role-plays, 3-ways or small groups, toys, nasty fantasies, dominance/submission, humiliation. Let's get down and nasty together. Let me know your scene. All replies answered. Reply BT Box DC105B or call ★★2908.

Latino Wanted

By attractive GWM, 25, blond. We are both physically fit, romantic and HIV-. Looking for masculine and muscular and responsible person. You: top. Me: bottom. I have many interests. Take a chance and call ★★2909.

Are You A Cute, Intelligent Asian?

Good-looking, very intelligent, professional Asian in his late-20s is interested in meeting other similar Asians. I have lots of interests and hope you do too. Strong belief in passion and loyalty, fun and adventure, optimism and sense of humor, hard work and commitment, exciting and meaningful sex, social and political consciousness, open-mindedness and tolerance, love and intense feelings. Let's meet and explore possibilities. Call ★★2910.

Little Bear

30 y.o., 150 lb., 5'8½", tattooed loveboy. Sonic Youth-oriented. Let's go to concerts, movies, museums and then let's mate. You be 26 to 34 and honest about your description. Call ★★2911.

Narcissist Please Read

Have you ever jacked off fantasizing about having your body admired, licked, touched? Let's make this fantasy come true. I'll lick, kiss and suck where you want. We'll both work on your needs. I'm there to help you feel good. You: nicely built, interested in having the attention focused on you. Me: Latin, 33, attractive. What we do is only between you and me. Write or call. Reply BT Box DC106B or call ★★2912.

Muscle-Bound Holidays

Looking for muscular, gym-toned hunk for holiday sleigh ride up and down the mountains. You love fun times, into sports, masculine things. I'm 25, 5'10", 150, very attractive Asian male into sports and fun times. Possible LTR with a caring GWM who's stable, between 20-35. Call! I will reply to all! Call ★★2913.

Bearded, Masculine, Monogamous

Fun, playful, bright, energetic, intuitive, insightful, sober, nonsmoking, left-of-center musician, kinda hairy, 38, 5'10", 145#, HIV-, light br/br, glasses, pierced ears, earthy, affectionate, versatile, uninhibited, sensual, values feelings, commitment, honesty, fitness, spirituality, personal growth, loves movies, dancing, queer comedy, live music, theater, seeks creative, like-minded man for exceptional LTR. Let's talk, exchange photos, date before sex. Dark-haired, bearded and/or hairy preferred, younger OK. Write: Boxholder, PO Box 14413, SF 94114 or call ★★2914.

Safe Sex And Slumber

GWM, 31, 5'9", 165#, blue, blond, self-employed, sexually intense, individualist. Just dumped because I'd fallen in love, but wasn't financially successful and good-looking enough to excite him romantically. Seeking someone attractive enough to make me feel better, for non-romantic, inexpensive healing. Safe and drug-free only. Smooth, buff, masculine encouraged, but EOF. Call ★★2915.

Let's Start A Support Group

Entitled: Forming Friendships. I find intimate friendship so hard to find. Men are so into sex, including myself. But, I want to change that. Sex is easy, friendship isn't. So, I'm looking for quality, masculine, caring, affectionate, sincere men, 25-40. So, let's start a group or get together, one-on-one. Love movies, theater, bowling, coffee, good conversation. What do you like? Call ★★2916.

Romance Anyone?

Pretty Oriental boy, 23, 5'5", in good shape & proportioned, smooth, lean, muscled body & boyishly handsome. Into alternative tracks, cafes, piano, exploring the City, dancing, etc. You: attractive, stocky, brawny, built with young looks, romantic & sensitive. Dig it? Call. Thick thighs are plus. Call ★★2917.

Three Ads In One

Cute, friendly and smart GWM (24, 6'1", 165, brown/green) who works at Stanford, resides in San Mateo, and sometimes wonders where and whether he really "lives" seeks one or more of the following: (1) A work-out partner at Encina Gym (4 times a week, flexible); (2) a jogging partner for semi-regular runs in San Mateo County; (3) cute men under 35 interested in dates leading to a LTR or not. Call ★★2918.

Asian Relations

GAM, very young and attractive 40s, 5'7", 135, HIV-, fit and healthy, seeks GM, any background, for friendship or perhaps relationship. Am NS, ND, caring, loyal, stable, with happy outlook. Have many interests including travel, music, gym, tennis, reading, films, etc. Prefer someone with similar and/or complementary traits and interests and healthy lifestyle, attractive, 50 or under, and in-shape. Call ★★2919.

Nice Jewish Guy

Jewish GWM, gym-toned, masculine, nice-looking, intelligent, caring, loving, 149#, 5'11", blue/brown, early-40s, and moustche, interested in meeting Asians/Pacific Islanders, under 46, for holiday meals or drinks. Looking for someone special with honesty, heart and communication to spend some warm times. A little affection really helps with life. So let's try. Send letters to Boxholder, PO Box 3598, SF 94119. Trim only, please; no drugs or games.

He Looks Good!

I'm 37, Fr./Ital., 6', 170, receding dark hair (not bald!), truly handsome and naturally fit. You're a man who's sexy when you're naked, comfortable in an Armani suit, and can work a pair of ripped up Levis. You drive on a hot day with no shirt, the black seat harness snug across your beautiful smooth chest. You look across at me and smile. You look good! Call ★★2920.

Black And White

Sincere, down-to-earth, white male, 5'8", 145, HIV-, mature, slender, seeks Black, hung top, HIV-. I have a light, small, white ass waiting for you. Also enjoy 69, safe sex. Don't put off writing. Your age or looks not important, but HIV status is. Boxholder "A," PO Box 10436, Oakland 94610.

Top 80%

If you would average an 8 out of 10 in the following areas—looks, intelligence, job, build, big heart—read on. I am 6'1", 175, very gdlkg, br, gr, mid-30s, HIV-, NS, professional, financially secure, honest and open. I am looking for someone in a similar situation who is also interested in a LTR. This is an ad for a man of quality with heart, not attitude. If you think this is you, please call and let's see if anything clicks. Call ★★2921.

Basic Male—Blond Variety

Blue-eyed, 34-year-old with glasses, 6', 170, seeks "together," educated, physically and mentally fit male for fun and relaxation. I like books, films, food, video, good conversation, and generally living and loving life. If you are between 30 and 40 and want to meet someone like me, leave a message and we'll take it from there. Call ★★2922.

European At Heart

GM, 41, Italian with little body hair, 5'9", 170 lbs., looking for similar, sexy, sensual and hunky man to get to know. Hairy okay. Only serious responses, please. Call ★★2923.

Seeking Filipino Lifemate

Affectionate GWM, 6 feet plus, 190#, balding, very late-40s, seeks loving, loyal, very slim, smooth, HIV-, nonsmoking Filipino man, 20s-30s, who wants permanent, masculine, monogamous marriage. Call ★★2924.

Russian River Seeker

Attractive GWM, 5'6", 34, seeks local fuck buddies. You: attractive, GWM/GLM/GBM, 5'-5'10", 18-40, top/versatile. HIV+ OK. Looking for sexual diversity with intelligent, aware, creative men, available evenings and occasional days. Pierced, shaved, groups, safe scenes OK. Please: NS. Weight/height proportionate. Please be uncloseted, liberal and fun. Show this shy boy something new! Write PO Box 488, Guerneville 95446 or call ★★2925.

Where Is My Man?

Deaf GWM, 41 (look 30s), blue/brown, moustache, 146#, 6', good-natured, humorous, honest, sincere, nonsmoker and HIV- seeking Blacks and Latins, honest, sincere, intelligent, affectionate, 21-45 and HIV- for friendship and maybe more. My hobbies: gyms, hiking, bowling, chess, traveling, spectator sports, massage, movies. If interested, please send letters with phone and photo if possible to: Boxholder, PO Box 190223, SF 94119-0223. Happy New Year!

Down-To-Earth

Professional GWM, 27, 5'10", 150 lbs., seeks similar GWM or GAM for relationship. I like reading, thinking, talking to friends, skiing, movies, opera, theater, more. I'm ready to settle down with the right man who is out, intellectual, mature, sexy and wants to build a strong, sharing life together. Call ★★2926.

Seeking Quality Asian

GWM, 40, br/br, HIV-, tired of bars, seeks quality Asian for companionship/friendship/possible relationship. I enjoy movies, eating out, dancing and quiet evenings at home getting to know you. I am a loving, caring person—you should be too. Prefer slim or skinny build, under 35, HIV-, between 5'2" and 5'7", willing to take a chance to know a quality guy. Call ★★2927.

Older Burly WM Daddy Wanted

You: 35-55, big, brawny, stocky, intelligent, muscular arms, neck. Beer-bellied/gray hair/balding a++. Slightly dominant, a gentle but firm macho daddy. Me: BM, 36, 6', 225, muscular, weightlifter body. Nonsmoker, non-drinker, career-minded professional. Interests: outdoors, sports, movies, intimacy and incredible safe sex. Call ★★2928.

Hot, Young Italian

GM, 24, dark and handsome, looking for similar, college educated GWM, GJM or GLM, under 30, for fun and/or relationship. Only serious responses, please, who are fun-loving and dynamic personalities. Call ★★2929.

Exceptional And Enlightened

Attractive 37-year-old, tall (6'), thin (135 lbs.), great body, spiritual, non-dogmatic, intense, loving, confrontive, talented (piano, photography, sculpture, et al), tactile, sexual, versatile, committed, open, healthy, HIV+. Looking for someone self-secure, sensual, healthy, aesthetic, attractive, HIV/irrelevant, student/teacher, who has been around and is capable of intimacy and partnership. It's a lot to ask, but I have a lot to give. Want to play? Call ★★2930.

Looking, Seeking, Wishing

For an average, down-to-earth stud, Asian/Black/white, who, like myself, is HIV-, ND. Smoke, light drink OK. I'm white, 5'7½", 148, nice cock and tight ass, hot lips. What else? Write and ask all the questions you wish. I will answer ASAP. PO Box 396, Pleasanton 94566 or call ★★2931.

Atencion! Mature European, Japanese

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San Jose **SMOKER:** Bob, 45, 5' 10. Is a smoker. Seeking Mr. Right. Cal for hame phone stach A+ ☎2226

San Jose **YNG PREPPY DJ:** down to earth, enjoy clubbing, dancing, looking to hook up w/smlr type. ☎1064

San Jose **CHUBBY CHASER?:** Asian wanted. Must party and chase chubbies. Call me at home. Looking for a relationship w/21-35 year old. ☎8621

San Jose **TOP PERFORMERS:** 39 y/o, gwm, btm, seeks tp ☎1524

San Jose **OWN HOUSE W/HOT TUB:** I'm looking for aggres., masc. men in s. bay, (hairy & black A+; bi- welcome). ☎8648

San Jose **BENCH PRESSURE:** 34 YO avg likes to workout. Also enjoys movies and dancing. Hispanic male seeks partner. ☎1012

San Jose **THREE'S COMPANY:** Couple in the So. Bay seeks WM for friendship and fun. Any race welcome. ☎3015

Mountain View **MTN VIEW:** Johnny in Mtn View. would like to meet others in peninsula. Very vers. Like movies and music. Leave me a message. ☎2608

SF **WANTED:** under 30 YO btm. Clean-cut and gd looking. Pls. call me. ☎2756

SF **COLOR ME HOT:** Handsome, 29, seeks men of color for hot times. ☎2882

SF **LET'S TALK:** 44 Y/O seeks under 32 for safe fun. ☎2939

SF **SEEKING BM:** David 29. 5'8 seeks BM. Love people and talking. Call and get to know me better. ☎7661

SF **O SOLE MIO!:** 28 YO Asian 5'6,165 blk haired prof. I love the arts and old movies. Let's enjoy the good things in life. Opera singer in San Francisco. 30-45 are encouraged. Must have zest for life. ☎9237

SF **EAST BAY:** 5'11, bm, seeks wm, for fun times. ☎9241

SF **BLACKDROP:** Good looking BM, btm, seeks WM 22-35 for fun. ☎8390

San Jose, **OH, DADDY!:** 5'10, 180lbs, seeking older daddies, 35-50, into boxer shorts, please call & be discreet thanks. ☎ 7467

San Jose, **FUN DAYS:** 35 y/o, looking for daytime fun, leave name & number for poss. get together. ☎ 7306

San Jose, **EXOTIC:** poly, haw., 5'11, 170lbs, long straight hair, strong personality, humorous, prof.,seeks tall atrac. somewhat inexper. male. ☎ 1017

San Jose, **ITALIAN/HISPANIC:** 20 y/o, 5'7, currently attending San Jose St. Univ., looking for someone to party with, (prefer under 30). ☎ 8303

San Jose, **SMOOTH FUN:** 25 y/o, 5'11, 155lbs, v. goodlkg, brw hair & eyes, clean shaven, masc. acting, looking for fun , ☎ 2052

San Jose, **CENTRAL AREA:** 5'9, short brw hair, brw eyes, looking for other short haired men for evening/weekends. ☎ 2858

San Jose, **SWEET TV:** masc. acting seeks soft TV for fun. ☎ 5454

Central Valley, **BIG TALKER:** 21 y/o looking to talk with all men. ☎ 5918

Oakland, **CUDDLE ME:** I'm 39 and love to play, cuddle, like to get to know somebody. ☎ 1455

Oakland, **THICK BONED:** 24 y/o, bm, 5'8, 155lbs, brw skin, med. build, thick boned, looking for tp men for fun times. ☎ 7540

Oakland, **OAKLAND BASE:** 28, 6'3, short hair, brw eyes, looking for btm, under 30, smooth, if interested please call. ☎ 2725

SF, **YOUNG & READY:** 22 y/o, looking for someone into everything, call me. ☎ 3844

SF, **LOADS OF FUN:** 23, 5'11, 175lbs, looking for someone who likes to have fun, call soon, I'm lots of fun. ☎ 7586

SF, **MUSICIAN:** 43, 5'8, 130lbs, slender, sensitive.brw hair/eyes, btm, looking for dom. loving guy, w/dark hair, to wake up to. ☎ 8572

SF, **FIRST TIME AD:** v. clean, open minded, looking for new sensation, willing to try most anything once. ☎ 8632

SF, **MARINA AREA:** 23, 6', seeks friends to go out under 30. ☎ 7290

SF, **LET'S HANG:** 20 y/o, 130lbs, 5'5, seeks masc. men to get to know, hang out with. ☎ 2073

SF, **HISPANIC/ITALIAN:** 6'2, work out 5 days/wk at gold's, love to swim, bike ride. ☎ 4274

SF, **MASCULINE:** 30, 5'9, 175lbs, into all kinds of outdoor activities, good times. ☎ 4444

SF, **CAN I BE OF SERVICE?:** 5'11, brw hair/eyes, 170lbs, stacked, ☎ 4758

SF, **NEW TO AREA:** 40 y/o, completely shaven, tattooed. ☎ 2238

Santa Cruz **SEEKS BEEFY TYPES:** 32 y/o, 5'9, 175lbs, tp brw hair & eyes, seeking beefy btm guys. ☎1638

San Jose **NEEDS PLAYMATE:** 6', 140lbs, looking for playmate. ☎4359

Santa Clara **GWM:** 26, 6'2, 195lbs, musclr, dark hair, hazel eyes, enjoy having fun. ☎3855

San Jose **HAIRY BEAR:** 38, 6', 210lbs, hairy chest, goatee, brw hair & eyes, enjoy outdoor activities, camping, hiking, scuba diving, comedy clubs, I'm romantic, a great cook and looking for guy for poss. rel. (latino A+). ☎3948

Lodi **BI-BLACK PROFESSIONAL:** 44, seeks any race or aged employed person, call for hm number. ☎3593

San Jose **YOUNG LATIN MALE:** 5'7, 33 y/o, would like to have good time with anyone out there. ☎8514

SF **BUILDING HOMEBODY:** 47, 5'10, 225lbs,(football player build) romantic, handsome, monag., dark hair, blue eyes, love going, to gym, staying at home. ☎1520

SF **VERY VERSATILE:** 22, N2 briefs, swimmer's & guys my own age, please leave msg or call for my pager number. ☎7394

SF **ATTENTION BAY AREA MEN:** I'm 18 and seeking other guys in the Bay area to meet & get to know better, call me if interested in meeting me. ☎8397

Oakland **ATTRAC. BLACK MALE 24:** 5'8, 165lbs, med. build, attrac., looking to meet other guys, leave msg if interested. ☎6744

River City **ACTIVE ROMANTIC:** 5'7, brw hair, enjoy swimming, tennis, bike riding, romance, pets. Give a call. ☎5386

SF **BI-CURIOUS:** 35 y/o, would like to meet someone for safe fun, please be discreet when calling. ☎6853

Vacaville **HEY! I'M 19:** 5'5, 145lbs, black hair, brw eyes, interested in everything, looking for someone for friendship, not into the scene. ☎6980

Fremont **"LOVES FURY SLIPPERS":** TS/TV 27, enjoy wearing fury slippers, & dressing up like a woman, like older men from 45-70, who like to smoke cigarettes. ☎7822

Stockton **HAIRY** cherokee decent seeking guys 25-45 that are white, extremely hairy. ☎1815

San Jose **LARGE MEN WANTED:** interested in meeting large men! Is this you?? ☎3722

Tracy **TWO GUYS LOOKING FOR FUN:** looking for other guys for fun times. ☎2196

San Francisco **TWIN PEAKS AREA: BIG FAT VERS.:** 290lbs, btm, seeks men who appreciate larger guys. ☎4714

SF **VERSATILE ITALIAN:** 32, 5'10, 165lbs, prefers men 25-40 , enjoy exploring the city, music, & theatre, ☎8009

SF **ASIAN MALE:** 30 y/o, enjoy foreign movies, seeks gwm, under 35 for fun & friendship. ☎8059

SF **SEEKS SIMILAR:** 30 y/o, wm, dark hair brw eyes, seeks smlr 25-35 for good times/dating & poss. rel. call my box & leave me a msg. ☎6997

SF **SEEKING MEN OF COLOR:** 6'1, 240lbs, blond, like movies, beach walks, ISO sincere honest times. ☎7442

SF **42 YR OLD BEAR TYPE:** I like back rubs, cuddling, lots of affection. ☎7529

San Jose **JUST WANNA HAVE FUN:** 20, spanish, mature for my age, seeks mature tp, wm, for some fun. ☎4707

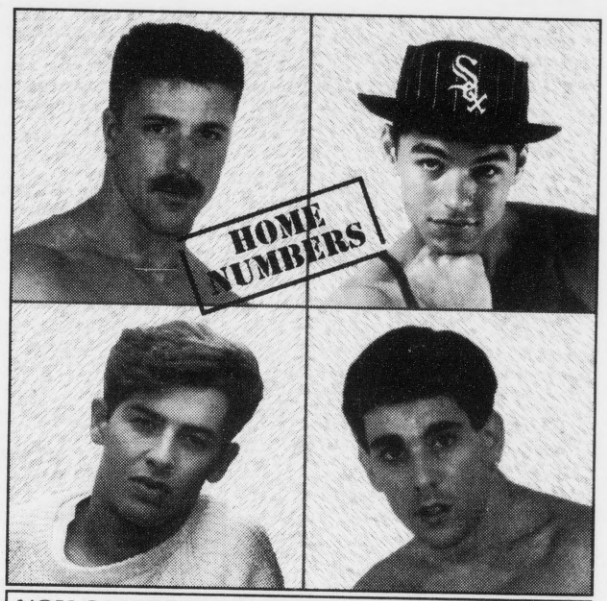
Campbell **MAKE MY FANTASY A REALITY:** 33 y/o, gwm, never had encounter w/other man, but very curious & anxious to find out. —hurry. ☎7706

Reno **ASPIRING X-DRESSER:** Bi-wm , who can be v. masc. would like to hear from reno men for teaching, tell me your fantasy. ☎6060

209 Area Code **TOP THIS:** 6', dark brw hair, btm, smooth seeks musclr, tp 28-39 for frequent get togethers. ☎4845

Modesto **CHINESE CONNECTION:** 5'9, 24, chinese guy, ready for fun! ☎4402

SF **ANY RACE OK:** 25, bm who's positive is looking for any race or couples 18-25 for fun times. ☎2904



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vide authenticity, humor, substance, mindfulness, refinement, non-conformity and practicality. Interests: personal growth, massage, the arts, psychology (especially the enneagram), orchids, pre-1980s films, conversation & more. I'm not intolerant of disabilities and unfitness. F., PO Box 3464, Santa Cruz 95063-3464.

Gorilla Wanted

GWM, 32, 5'11", 165 lbs., dark brown hair and eyes, handsome, muscular, smooth, seeks an incredibly hairy, muscular man, 30-50, for safe, fun times. Must be extremely hairy: arms, chest, back, legs. The thicker the better! Muscular and in-shape men only; weight proportionate, please. Photo a plus. Reply BT Box DC107B or call ★★2932.

Love

Student/professional, French, brown hair/eyes, 5'11", 160 lbs., HIV-, into dinners with friends, movies, traveling, squash, hiking, skiing. Looking for emotion and sincerity, a LTR someone and also friends. Call ★★2933.

Sex And Love

Me: 33 y.o. GHM, bottom, 5'6", 155 lbs., HIV+, romantic, communicative, alive, love sex in a.m., love commitment. You: GWM/GHM, 33 to 43, hairy, hung, top, HIV?, intense, passionate, lusty, sexual, loving, alive. I am more than HIV and being Hispanic. Let's see if there is more than chemistry. Call ★★2934.

Who Put The "Stud" In "Studious"?

Intelligent, articulate GWM with glasses is also a passionate, versatile Italian (HIV+) with a big... libido. Attractive, trim, short (5'5"), brn/brn, trim beard, mid-30s. Terrific sense of humor, dog owner/lover, real nice guy. Love popular music (Louis Jordan, June Tabor, Sondheim), movies, dining out, but most of all staying in, talking, laughing and making love with a special person. I have lots to offer, emotionally and physically, to the right person, and I'll run this ad till I find him. You: mature but fun-loving GWM in good shape, late-20s-late-30s, no drugs. Call ★★2935.

Seeking Friends

GAM, 28, 5'6", cute, educated, not quite ready for relationship, but looking for sincere, enduring friendship to share some of my interests: hiking, jogging, movies, literature, museum, art history, classical music. Reply if you are GW/A/LM, 25-30, with similar interests. No drugs, attitudes, smokers, please. Call ★★2936.

Muscular, Relationship-Oriented Caucasian

Seeks a responsible, honest Asian, 23-37, with an ultra-smooth, hairless, athletic body. I'm 37, 5'11", 175 lbs., stable, sincere. Interests: music, working out, various ethnic foods. I'm serious and don't like playing games. If you only want to play games, please don't waste our time. If you are serious and sincere, let's connect. Smooth muscular hairless legs a plus! Call ★★2937.

Contra Costa Outdoorsman Seeks Outdoorsman

Howl at the moon or kindle a fire on a cold winter night in the great outdoors. I'm an articulate, intelligent, hairy-chested, moustached, environmental professional and seek experienced hiking/camping buddies. Stable, self-assured, good-looking, masculine GWM, 5'10", 175, 31, br/gr, HIV-, NS/light drinker. I hike weekly, camp out monthly, not interested in teaching anyone the ropes. I run, cycle, backpack, kayak, and hang out wwith my current best buddy (4-legged variety). Not looking for couch potatoes, prefer movie matinees and being outside. Work/play hard, live alone, prefer a good kiss to any food on earth, politically active. You're similar, rugged, masculine, in-shape, 28-50. Prefer a man who's comfortable with himself and being gay, facial/chest hair a plus. Call ★★2938.

Asians, Asians, Asians

Sincere white male wishes to meet Asians for friendship or whatever. I am white, 5'9", 150, HIV-, early-50s, but with young mind and body. I don't smoke or take drugs. Your looks or age not important. P/p if possible. Please be sincere and HIV-. Can travel. Write soon. Boxholder, PO Box 2321, Livermore 94550.

Spanking Buddies

Do spanking fantasies make your heart race more than a little? Want to meet another versatile GWM who gets sweaty thinking about someone being sent to the principal's office, a long-due trip to the woodshed, or getting to the bottom of this matter in dad's basement. Gym-toned, gdlkg GWM, 34, dark features, incredibly turned on by rolled up shirt sleeves, stern lectures and wooden straight back chairs. Let's see what happens next, but hopefully you're thinking "old fashioned." Interested in other in-shape (not overweight) GWM, 22-40, but especially like blonds, little or no body hair, and quiet/shy guys maybe a little nervous about acting out deep-seated fantasies. Half the fun is no-rush sexual exploration with another friendly, creative and fun boy/man. This is my first ad. Let's help each other stay warm this winter. Call ★★2939.

Wanted: A Special Top Partner

Would you like a partner who is a stable, secure, basically straight-world identified professional while also a great bottom in bed? I'm an attractive, emotionally available, GWM, 5'11", 160, brown/green, fit, fair, smooth and a youthful 51 with many interests. We are both HIV-, health-conscious, NS/ND, open-minded, very sexual, and have a lot going for us. Tell me about yourself. Call ★★2940.

Muscular Or Fat

Young guy sought for friendship and fun. You're masculine and don't have much body hair. I'm GWM, 29, 6', 270#, blk/grn, hairy, enjoy playing music, swimming, hiking, computers, animals and road trips. You're any race, 30 or younger, straight-acting, smooth-bodied, cologne-free. Blond, under 23, cut, intelligent are pluses. Please send an interesting letter (photo) to RAMS, PO Box 1664, SF 94142-1664 or call ★★2941.

Do Opposites Attract?

You: dark Mediterranean type, handsome, 35-45, under 6', gym-toned body, NS; seropositive/asymptomatic; professional, spiritual & sense of humor. Sexually sensual, passionate, versatile and prepared for hours of playing, kissing & cuddling. Me: light, red/blnd, blue, 39, 5'8", 138 lbs., SF native, good-looking, toned, positive and healthy. I enjoy the gym, movies, dining out, hiking, playing & exploring... a lot. Write or call. Reply BT Box DC108B or call ★★2942.

Rescue Me

I'm not who I want to be. I'm needing insight, direction; a friend who is intellectually strong, radically individualist, entrepreneurially experienced, financially capable, connected; who can help me figure my way out of debt, develop a business and achieve my potential. Not looking for sex or money, but mentorship. Promise no abuse of anything offered and to pass on the same when able. Discretion required and assured. Call ★★2943.

Hey There

This white guy is looking for HIV- top who can pleasure my tight, small ass with a big stick. Me: HIV-, ND, NS, light drink, 5'8", 145, mature with nice tool and hot mouth. You: HIV-, ND, NS, safe sex, any race or age. Hurry. PO Box 5294, Pleasanton 94566.

Fit, Forty And Fun

This Christmas let's celebrate! I'm 5'10", 150#, br/blue, NS, ND, HIV-, and was 40 this year. I love my job, which is also my hobby. Have great friends, lots of interests, especially arts, CW dancing and walking, but relish quiet evenings cuddling by the fire with a special "other." If you're fit, together, open and available, let's meet for egg nog. We deserve to be loved. Call ★★2944.

You Also Like P.G. Wodehouse?

(I just read a Blandings Castle novel and am in a cheerful mood.) If you'd like a tall, mature, bright, artistic man who massages, draws male nudes from life, shares conversations, pours you a cup of jasmine tea, listens, touches, encourages and hopes you'll do some of the same, please write. Photo appreciated. Reply BT Box DC109B.

Sex And Spirit

Looking to heal my connection with God, the planet and all that is by connecting sexually and spiritually with another conscious man who knows the power and magic of conscious, heart-centered sexuality. This is not about getting off; it's about experiencing breath, energy, love and spirit with an open man who's willing to feel, create, explore and play. Please write: Boxholder, PO Box 14413, SF 94114 or call ★★2945.

ADventure + CHemistry =

...a cute and masculine guy into "innocent" explorations, friendship, great adventures and possible LTR. The result of my chemistry quest should equal someone just as cute on the inside as on the outside, an honest guy under 31 who's ready for an adventure of his own. Smooth and slim types earn extra points. I'm 32, 6'1", 165#, blond/blue, very outgoing and kinda intense. C'mon, let's find out how much fun science can really be! Reply BT Box DC110B or call ★★2946.

Muni, Dec. 6, Church & Market, 6 pm

J Church line from Powell. You: tall, nice-looking, green jacket and shoes, carrying a "Banana Republic" bag. Me: tall, black jacket, glasses, carrying a "Gap" bag. We smiled a lot; you got off at Church/Market. I got off the next stop and hurried back, but you were gone. I think we should meet. If nothing else we could go shopping. Call ★★2947.

Fire-Buffalo Seeks Mr. Mostly Wonderful

Me: beefy Caucasian, 44, 6', dark hair & eyes, moustache, moderately hairy, attractive, masculine, professional, intelligent, cultured, romantic, sexy, communicative, sense of humor, HIV-, able to share and commit. You: mature, attractive, moderately muscular or beefy, sexy, facial hair, HIV-, financially stable, sense of humor, communicative, able to share and commit. Objective: to share our stories, dates, possibly develop an exclusive relationship. Call ★★2948.

Squeaky Wheel

Good-looking, emotionally available, intelligent, healthy, irreverent, rebellious, imaginative, intense, intuitive, sensitive, unconventional, supportive and ready for a loving relationship. I'm 6'2", 180, 30, brown-blond hair, green eyes, HIV-. Comfortable with my current friends, but want a special relationship. I want a focused and loving relationship that supports one another to grow personally and professionally, enables sharing intimate secrets, thoughts, dreams, feelings, ideas, fantasies, and insecurities. One that allows both to be vulnerable, but at the same time strengthens our individuality. We are strong but know that we don't always need to be because we are there for each other. We cook together, sometimes read to each other, curl up together after a long exhausting day, and discuss rather than argue differences. You are 30-45, emotionally available, sincere, available, good-looking, in good shape, ambitious, communicative, conscientious, have a good sense of humor and self, inherently monogamous and comfortable with it (not thinking that you may be), consider that being gay is only second to who you are as a person but not resentful of that part. I'm attracted to men comfortable with their good looks and body. Facial/chest hair a definite plus. If you take the time to sincerely reply with photo to PO Box 26421, SF 94126, I'll do the same, regardless.

Build Me Up, BB?

Gdlkg, energetic, 37 y.o. (cleanshaven, 30" waist) seeks BB to help me grow. Asymp. HIV+ with stamina (and ten new pounds) thanks to testosterone shots. I'll make you proud & me too. I'm a good pal on top of everything else. A BB coach, daddy or buddy would make a great gift for 1994. Reply PO Box 460910, SF 94146-0910 or call ★★2949.

Bright Dad

Seeks intelligent son. Dad is 46, 5'10", 160 lbs., loving, caring and mature, HIV-. Dad wants son who is intelligent and sensitive. He likes good sex but wants to explore possibility of LTR. Dad wants to know son's emotions—nothing trivial here. 537 Jones St., #8778, SF 94102 or call ★★2950.

GWM Seeks GAM

Intelligent, balanced, good-looking GWM, 5'8", 155 lbs., 41, HIV-, seeks GAM between 35-45. I'm in-shape, financially stable and good-humored. Would like to meet similar GAM. Call ★★2951.

Not Straight-Acting

As a child, mother told me it is just as easy to fall in love with a rich woman as a poor one (we didn't know that I liked men yet!), so here I am single and wanting a committed relationship with a man who can support me without being "daddy"; I hate that. Someone who will have his own life, allow me my own life (work, school, etc.), and want us to share together. You must be an amazing, monogamous, nonsmoking dreamboat who will go to the opera with me because you love it, or let me go with friends 'cause you hate it. I want to find love again, make someone happy, and live well in SF or Bay Area. If you want to court me, send letter and photo to receive mine. Reply BT Box DC111B.

Sailor Seeks Relationship

To share the freedom aboard my 45-ft. sailboat and help me continue the perfect Bay Area natural lifestyle. I'm 41, 5'11", 170, fit, HIV-, and ready to bond with a younger man who has an unfulfilled sense of adventure. No experience necessary, just the will to learn, a hunger to explore and the desire for a monogamous relationship. Captain, 1001 Bridgeway, Box 428, Sausalito 94965 or call ★★2952.

Loops, Hoops & Envelopes

Figure skating, NCAA March madness and the Oscars are around the corner. Let's watch them together. Affectionate, attractive, outgoing man seeks someone kind, caring and romantic to share music, hiking, restaurants, movies, travel and perhaps a lifetime with. Love takes time, so let's get started. Nonsmoker, HIV- seeks same: ages 30-44. Sense of humor and optimistic nature important. If you don't call, you'll never know. Call ★★2953.

Everyone Deserves Happiness

Thinking about that new person during Christmas would be nice. Handsome Asian, level-headed, nice build, 29 y.o., 142#, 5'7", seeks in-shape GWM, under 33 y.o., for meaningful friendship (or more) and quality time. I love karaoke, volleyball, personal growth, spending time with you and looking into your eyes. This attractive, friendly, easygoing bachelor would love meeting you if the stars are willing. Your eyes, your height, your hands, your endowment are a plus. Let's make each other happy. C'mon, it's cold outside; let's snuggle up and tell each other stories. Reply BT Box DC112B or call ★★2954.

Haight St./Rural/Longhairs

Turned off by the middle-classism (and dreadful music) of the mainstream gay scene? This tall, thin, toppish, in-shape, intellectual, long-haired, late-40s veteran of Big Sur, lotsa drugs, activism and even some success, yearns for younger, lean, self-sufficient, fashion rejects. We'll share feelings no one else imagines, make the universe revolve more harmoniously and have affectionate, wanton fun in bed. PO Box 170217, SF 94117 or call ★★2955.

Bow Wow Wow Yippee Yo Yippee Yay

Why do I act like that? Why must I chase the cat? Nuthin' but the dog in me. GWM, top, 32, 5'8", brn/grn, moustache, big dick, looking for lively Black bottoms. I'm not hung up on types, but if you're too fierce and real for most white boys, give me a try—if you want a man who really loves being on top. Call ★★2956.

Tied Up At Xmas?

If bondage is your thing, let's play. 31-yr-old confident dude looking for new bondage playpals whether novice or experienced. Lots of toys and ideas. Toys made of rubber, leather, steel and football gear. Ideas vary. Safe/secure, discretion assured; sex or no sex. And it's all free! You: 18-40, white, Asian or Latin, willing to commit, and intrigued. Reply BT Box DC113B or call ★★2957.

Young Plain Sex

Till Mr. Right comes along, I figure I might as well have fun till I'm married. I like cute young men who like to relax and enjoy all my attention, massage, kisses, romance and great sex. If you're 18 to 30, no strings attached, give me a call, you won't regret it. I'm early-30s and good-looking. Call ★★2958.

HIV+ Asian Looking For Friends

I am a quiet, lonely, 35-year-old Asian male, seek friends for support or mutual friendship, in my difficult time of life. Any race, any age. Please write or call. Reply BT Box DC114B or call ★★2959.

Oakland Expert Masturbation/ Dirty Talk Freak

Seeking butt ugly men for heavy, intense, mutual dirty talk, jack-off, cock/ball worship, drinking, smoking, partying (share costs), my place, 11 pm. No fuck/suck/touch. Long one-on-one encounters. New ideas, shaved guys. Cock is more important than physical contact. Object: regular meetings. All of above must be mutual. Seeking men with time to share, not "full calendar girls." Ugly men make me obsessed with looking at cock. Call ★★2960.

Caution: May Be Habit-Forming

Attractive GWM, 39, brown/blue, moustache, stocky, very hairy, hung, masculine. HIV+. I'm a passionate topman with a great tongue for smooth Latins, Asians, brunettes. Hot kisser, pumper, into passionate foreplay, not just sex. If you turn on to dominant, masculine guys, let's go! Pluses for: no vices, smooth legs, moustaches, masculine, passion. Call ★★2961.

Pretty Exceptional

Looking for a man for whom the following are not oxymorons: rational Italian, emotional engineer, gay Catholic, intelligent bodybuilder, mature youngster (25), butch opera fan, humble Ivy Leaguer, good-looking "nice guy." I am the boy every mom wants to her daughter to marry... only I have eyes on her son. Please be pretty amazing yourself. Send letter & phone to PO Box 27901-232, SF 94127.

Time To Nest

Intelligent, fun, creative GWM Financial District professional writer ready to share great home, upscale life. Nordic blond, 49, educated, traveled, eclectic interests, monogamous relationship-oriented, traditional values with liberal outlook. HIV+, 5'9", 158, smoker. Very oral, great kisser, into nipples. Good-humored, supportive, hopeless romantic, considerate, affectionate in public and private. Seek similar, maybe a bit younger (30s), shorter, or not. Let's pillow talk. Call ★★2962.

Romantic Big Guy

GWM, 6'3", 285 lbs., 32, romantic, sincere, relationship-oriented, looking for GLM or GAM. I like movies, dinner and quiet times with the right person. I am average-looking, you do not need to be gorgeous, just have a good heart. Sincere only, please. Call ★★2963.

Winter Heat

Playful GAM, 28, 122 lbs., fit & attractive, 5'4", seeks good times on the town and at home. Boyfriend-oriented. Laughter and companionship are my priorities. I like the arts, ethnic foods, music and new places. Be a fit, attractive, boy-next-door type (to 35) with a nasty side for excitement and fun. I like physical, extroverted types with interests to share. No smokers/addicts/drunks. Call ★★2964.

Clean-Cut Motorcycle Guy

Me: 33, GWM, 6'1", 195, br/br, getting back in shape, nonsmoker, ex-Marine, college grad, seeks younger white or Spanish guy in black leather motorcycle jacket, prefer shorter than me, bottom, 18-25. Call ★★2965.

New Year's Resolution—You

What's between your ears, rather than your legs is what interests me. I'm 49 y.o., good-looking, HIV+ (healthy), 170#, 5'10", good build, blue eyes, irish background, moustache, well-educated, witty, great smile, good kisser and cuddler, good friends and satisfying career in mental health field. What I lack is a partner. You: also serious about commitment and the work involved. You too have a good career/job, in good shape, around my age range (if you want a "daddy," I'm not it), can be playful and serious, light drinker, nonsmoker, perhaps a moustache, perhaps a Latin/Asian. You want, rather than need a relationship, someone to be intimate with, someone to be next to you in life. Me too. Let's see where this leads. Got a picture? All replies answered. Reply BT Box DC115B.

Lions, Tigers And Bears... Oh Yeah!

GBM (bear), tall (6 feet), bearded, hairy, 30 y.o., 245 lbs., looking for other bearded and furry creatures for sexual encounters. Safe only. No druggies or heavy drinkers. Age, weight, height, race unimportant. Must be bearded/hairy and ready to play. Call ★★2966.

You: Definitely Smart & Creative

Definitely 5'8" or under. Probably: 30s, boyish, toppish. Maybe: Latino or Asian American, queer-identified. I'm gay, brainy, socially committed journalist/wordsmith, 5'6", 142#, young 40s, Jewish ethnicity, beard/moustache, blk/brn. We're both feeling, thoughtful, playful, adventurous (in and out of bed), HIV-, NS, light drinkers. Pathway: mutual respect/exploration/sharing of diverse life experiences/perspectives, physical/emotional/spiritual intimacy, growing together, growing individually, laughter, lust and lewd times. Call ★★2967.

Permanent Pony Ride Partner

Handsome, 22 y.o., GWM, 6 ft., 165 taut pounds; have hair, have eyes. Wise beyond my years. Offbeat spirituality. Hot bedroom, kitchen, ? versatility. Interests include but are not limited to David Lynch, Fellini, Mark Tansey, diverse music, rollerblading, photography and flea markets. Seeking man, 30 to 40, with brains, brawn, big dick and a dry wit. No tobacco-smokin', muscle-headed party boys. Friendship first, maybe pony ride later. Call ★★2968.

Blond Buddy Wanted

This Latino man seeks a blond sex buddy. You should be 21-35 yrs. old, fun, attractive, HIV-, and hot for safe sex. I'm 35 yrs. old, 6 feet, 210#, hairy-chested, masculine, HIV-, and hot for a blond man. Call ★★2969.

Massage Anyone?

Good-looking, cleanshaven, well-educated, East Bay GWM, mid-30s, 6'2", 190#, HIV-, seeks similar GWM/GAM, 25-35, for an erotic massage exchange and who knows, maybe even a friendship. I am relatively inexperienced, and am hoping for some enjoyable, sensual experiences. Please send a photo (which I will return) and a letter describing yourself and your interests to BT Box DC116B.

Me: GWM, 37

6', 145#, br/br, hairy chest/legs, HIV+, NS, ND. Desire: HIV+ younger companion who enjoys GrA/P, FrA/P, etc. Reply: R., PO Box 424947, SF 94142-4947 or call ★★2970.

Mutual Worship

In-shape, 43, 5'11", 150, br/gr, moustache, seeks like-minded men for reciprocal worship. You are in-shape, have facial hair, and can get intoxicated (without substances), merely through the erotic, conscious presence of another. We're talking full-out man worship: a deep heart and a powerful libido. "It's all about soul." If you are conscious, alcohol-/drug-free, sexually rich and willing to go down deep, call ★★2971.

Pan

Newly returned to SF. Singer, student, bard, fool. These days primarily concerned with career, focus, discipline. Not interested in leaves in the wind or repeating past steps. Special friend to sleep with, explore with, intellectualize and share with would be nice. I am mellow, androgynous, colorful, former stoner, long hair, 31. You are my spirit of Pan, mellow, sexy, honest, smart, passionate, top, hopefully fellow musician, artist. Call ★★2972.

Tall MD? Hung, Cut, 50-65?

Submissive WM, monogamous (living with a woman) seeks above man. I'm 6'4", 200, red hair, 51, beard, smooth skin, uncut, nice butt—for the right man. I'm eager to find a man again. I'm affectionate and giving into my man's needs totally. Had only a few relationships with men years ago. Like the outdoors, the ocean, sports, quiet times, massage, romantic dates. Box 20053, Oakland 94620 or call ★★2973.

Cut To The Chase

40s, hardbody, looking for same, mid-30s to mid-50s, for stimulating encounters between the sheets. Lean and very defined, 146, 5'8", dark hair/beard, hazel eyes. Sensual, versatile. Desire a man my size or bigger who savors breathtaking kisses, aggressive tit-play and non-role dominated sex. Quick-witted a plus. Flat abs a must. Can you make the grade? Call ★★2974.

Monogamous, Muscular Asian

I'm a masculine, yet sensitive, smooth-skinned AM, 40s, 5'7", 150#, moustache, 40c, 30w, 14a, HIV-. Into films, TV, working out, cooking/dining out, walking. Democrats, fashion, art, 501s,

mutual titplay/bodyworship and J/O. No smokers, drugs. If you're a muscular GM, HIV-, with similar interests/body, call ★★2975.

Interested In Science

Attractive Italian/Hispanic male, 38, 6', 160#, dark hair & eyes, moustache, HIV-. I presently re-entered college to finish my degree in science & engineering. I'm politically liberal with many interests including science, crafts, politics, music (no hard rock). I'm very affectionate, love to cuddle & kiss, not into bars or drugs. I'm seeking another GWM, GLM or GAM into the sciences, around my age or older, for possible relationship or good friend, who is affectionate, not into bars or drugs and shares some of my interests. Please, no Republicans. If writing, please send photo if possible (not necessary). If this sounds interesting to you, write or call. Reply BT Box DC117B or call ★★2976.

What Is An Interior Architect?

Not throw pillows and wicker! GWM, 29, 175 lbs., 6'3", bl/br, drug-/smoke-free, HIV-. Attractive Euro-Hispanic looks. Not jaded yet: new to SF from Texas. Grad schooled, well-employed, conversationalist, challenging. Into the arts and outdoors; like films, design, cycling and camping, also cafes and dancing. Open to friendship, LTR, sex/cuddlebuddy. I am not one, but they create the space and emotion of the internal skin of a building. Call ★★2977.

Romantic Sane Person

GBM, 5' tall, 118 lbs., smooth, muscular hairless body in great shape. HIV+ 35-year-old. I am a passionate, sensitive and a very romantic, sane person. I love to laugh and have fun, enjoy life, hot safe sex; into intimacy, affection, spirituality and communication, looking for a man that is comfortable with his sexuality, other men, and not afraid of affection and intimacy. I believe in chemistry. Call ★★2978.

Christian Ethics

Is my foundation, giving me proper balance in my spiritual, emotional and physical life. I'm a very handsome, humorous, well-educated, romantic, youthful 40s GWM, 6'1", 189 lbs., brown hair/eyes, muscular build, in excellent health (HIV-). I enjoy reading, learning, discovering, working out, nutrition, music, movies, etc. Seeking attractive, younger GWM with similar values (no drugs, NS) for friendship and/or LTR. RSVP: CE, PO Box 882201, SF 94188-2201 or call ★★2979.

Once Upon A Time

There was a GWM, 36, 6'1", 175, br/br, moustache, brains, nice looks, nice friends, fun life, who—at times—was lonely and wished for romance. The wished-for boyfriend would be a GWM, age 18-40, good-looking, intelligent, personable, sexually versatile and socially responsible. He also might enjoy smiling, books, films, animals and laughter. Can you help with the ending? Call ★★2980.

Sex And Friendship

Not a relationship ad. Leatherman in committed interracial partnership looking to make new friendships which include sexplay. I'm an affectionate, intelligent top with sense of humor and good heart. Interested in wrestling, the outdoors and being daddy/older brother to younger guys. 42, 6', 165 pounds, military blond haircut, trimmed red-blond beard, athletic body with great legs, butt and dick. 584 Castro St., #504, SF 94114.

From Top To Bottom

The virus hasn't changed my deep blue eyes, set against dark locks and moustache, eyes that admire olive-to-dark brown males. Kisses touching deeply, holding you closer—soft, abundant body hair brushes your smooth satin skin. Sensitivity, tenderness, surrender to passion—sensing your pleasure, kisses become dominant, raising temperatures, gaining my entrance. The virus hasn't changed my desire for you—or yours for me. Call ★★2981.

Underwear/Jockstrap Fantasies?

Attractive, slim (29" waist), tanned, super smooth, callipygian, 30-something Asian seeks WM to watch me model my huge men's undergarment collection (briefs, thongs, jockstraps, swimwear, spandex, boxers, shorts, sweats, fundoshi). Help me into/out of my garments, grope me, photograph me. Safe, fun, erotic play (I'm also HIV-, deep-throated, anal passive, into masturbation). Plus if you'll model your undergarments for me. Not into dirty/women's underwear. Call ★★2982.

Italian-Swiss-German-Irish

All-American, 34 y.o., dirty blond is tired of being a tourist attraction, meeting all of the cute guys from out of town. Now, don't get me wrong: Looks do count, but if you don't have the personality to back it up you might as well keep lusting after "Mr. Perfect" at the gym while I get down to business with some "415" boy ready for it. Asian/Pacific Islander/Latin men a+. 28 to 38 years old, HIV-. Get over it and call ★★2983.

Hot Head

Wanted—a passionate, serious cocksucker, that is, who gives total blowjobs. I have endowment downstairs, a brain and words upstairs. You bring tongue, lips, throat and energy. I'm 5'9", 165, br/bl, 49, moustached, and very well-hung. Also bright, literate, wry. You could be hairy-chested, dark, younger. You should be imaginative and sexy. Let's have intense, manly, holiday encounter and see what happens. Call ★★2984.

Asian Seeks GWM For Friendship/Relationship

48, 5'9", 135 lbs., GAM professional, love classical music, movies, theater, travel, biking, walking, nonsmoker, no drugs, HIV-, monogamous. Seeking intelligent, responsive, sensitive, sincere, professional GWM, late-40s to early-60s for dates, friendship, exploration and moving slowly into all aspects of what makes for a good relationship. Reply Box 360, 298 4th Ave., SF 94118 or call ★★2985.

Slave Sought

Master, 41, seeks slave with experience who is a pig about pain, abuse, sharing, being owned, ritual, bondage, wax, paddling/whipping, bonding—being part of a man and exploring life at all levels. Permanent sought—trained and developed progressively. You seek control by a dominant man who uses all your talents toward focusing on making use of your talents serving a man. Make me believe you. Giving, sharing, trust. Call ★★2986.

Doe-Eyed Boy, 25

Smoky and angular, with mordant—never bitter—sense of humor, seeks appealing, quick-witted man, 20s-30s, for an epic time. Call ★★2987.

Saucer Module Seeks Battle Section

Cute, 5'10", 175, bl/bl, 37, HIV-, x-jock, seeks eventual LTR. Docking latches: SF, KFOG, KPFA, comparative religion, ethnomusicology, ethnobotany, synesthesia, multimedia, ecology/economics, kissing chests, massage. Call ★★2988.

Bodybuilder

Tall, masculine, good-looking—studly at 40 and very well-built—seeks similar for possible partnership. I have had it with big-city gay attitude and yearn to fulfill my fantasy of two guys living on a ranch somewhere out amidst the vast high rural desert Southwest. I am entrepreneurial, educated & cultured, passionate, athletic (and HIV-). Sexually, I guarantee we'll never get bored...! Your nude photo gets mine. Write w/your own experience. Reply BT Box DC118B.

Boyishly Handsome

Introspective, budding young architect, 24, seeks similar East Coast boy to miss the winter with. Call ★★2989.

Tender Touch

Looking for a really special relationship, hopefully achieving high degrees of love, devotion, vulnerability, communication and trust. Healthy HIV+ top, youthful 40, 5'7", 135 lbs., loves nature, the beach, art, architecture, movies, music & the gym. Seeks a smooth, sexy bottom with a good heart and high I.Q. Men of color, billionaires, great kissers, dilletantes and spacemen are all encouraged to reply. Reply BT Box DC119B or call ★★2990.

Hinduism, Hiking & Humor

I'm a GWM, 41, 5'9", 170 lbs., dark thinning hair, asymptomatic HIV+. I have average looks, above average commitment to my Eastern spiritual path; I like bodywork, outdoors, chanting, meditation retreats; am thoughtful, somewhat shy, versatile bottom; I enjoy confident, masculine, taller men who share my desire for fun, adventure, intimacy and enlightenment. I'm interested in making new friends, dating and/or LTR. Call ★★2991.

Winter Is Here

And one special man deserves another to warm the cold nights. Me: GWM, 44, 5'8", 150#, br/bl, muscular, attractive, smooth, intelligent, healthy, HIV+. SF resident, with interests ranging from opera to the outdoors. You: GWM, roughly 35-55, in-shape, attractive, hairy chest/body. Us: good kissers & cuddlers, enjoy touch, massage & mutual J/O, open to possible LTR. Reply BT Box DC120B or call ★★2992.

A Great Smile

In search of a handsome, clean-cut GWM, 29-40, in good physical condition, who loves to laugh & enjoy a glass of wine while listening to music. I'm a very handsome GBM, 30s, 5'8", 165, gym-toned, professional, spiritual & HIV-. My interests include cycling, hiking, working out, movies, reading, sharing time w/friends. No smoking, drugs. Give me a call & make me smile. Call ★★2993.

Desperately Seeking Nerds, Geeks, Chubbies

Butt uglies, and all other men. Age, size, looks are unimportant. Intense mutual dirty talk, jack-off, cock/ball worship while drinking/smoking/partying (share costs), my place (Oakland) for lengthy encounters, starting 10-11 pm. Not a fuck/suck/touch scene. Not into top/bottom role-playing, videos, shaved guys, couples, mirrors. Into mutual jack-off, C/B worship at its most intense. Call ★★2994.

Creative White Man

Searches for equally powerful man to laugh and love through life with. I am 39, HIV+, 6', 160#, cleanshaven, compelling good looks. Please reply BT Box DC121B or call ★★2995.

Cuddling, Slow Passionate Kissing, Nurturing Massage

A special, supportive, growing friendship, hopefully evolving into a deep intimate lasting love is what I need. You too? We are both playful, smile a lot, naturally masculine, strong, very sensitive, gentle, sensual, shy yet articulate, homebodies, emotionally available, good listeners, open-minded, spiritual and ardent nature enthusiasts. I'm tall, slim, muscular (work-out regularly), hairy, short dark beard, real short hair, sexy intense gentle blue eyes, handsomely cute and active. You're healthy, tightbodied (a little over- or underweight is fine), smooth to moderately hairy, youthfully handsome or boyish, any age (beard and glasses are fine), top or versatile with a fairly thick, stiff, beautifully shaped shooter. My interests include hiking, camping, holistic healing, yoga, animals, plants, movies, cuddling while watching TV. Reply BT Box DC122B or call ★★2996.

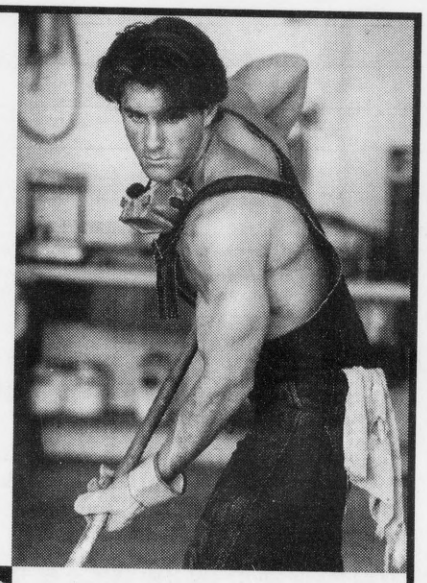
Sailing

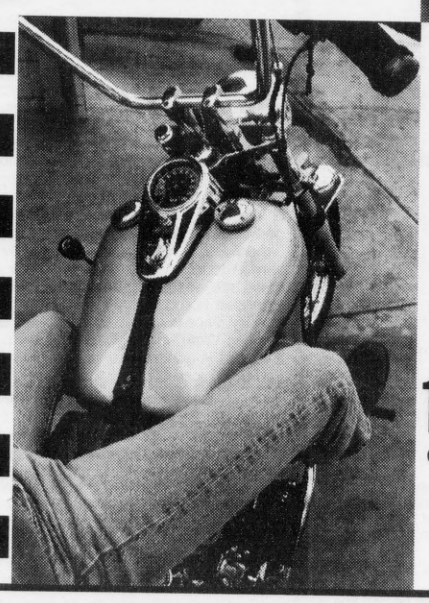
For GBM only. GWM, young 49, 6'5", 240 lbs., long hair, beard (bear type), seeks GBM for outdoor adventure, sailing on Bay, etc. Friendship/relationship. Age open. Not interested in sponsoring the unemployed. Weight in proportion to height. Masculine only! 633 Post, Boxholder #69, SF 94109. Be a risk-taker in life—great things will come to you. Call ★★2997.

Positive Seeking Positive

Calm, quiet, sensitive, loving, versatile GWM, mature, 52, urbanite, seeks loving, affectionate, versatile friend. I am masculine, attractive, outgo-

GET YOUR MOTOR ROLLIN'





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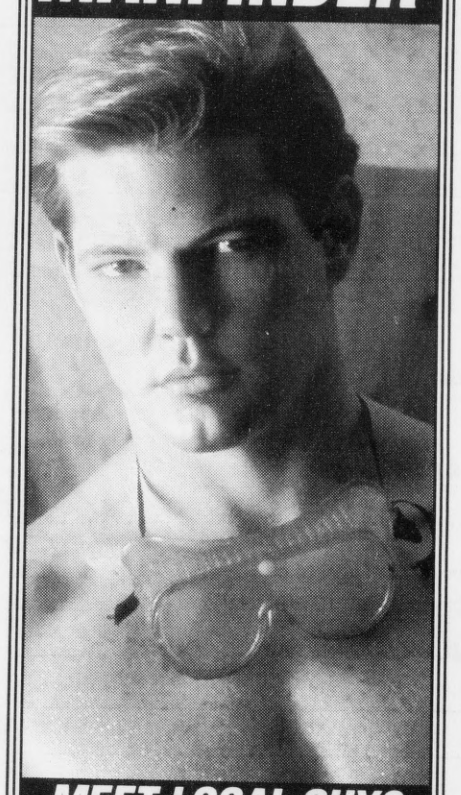
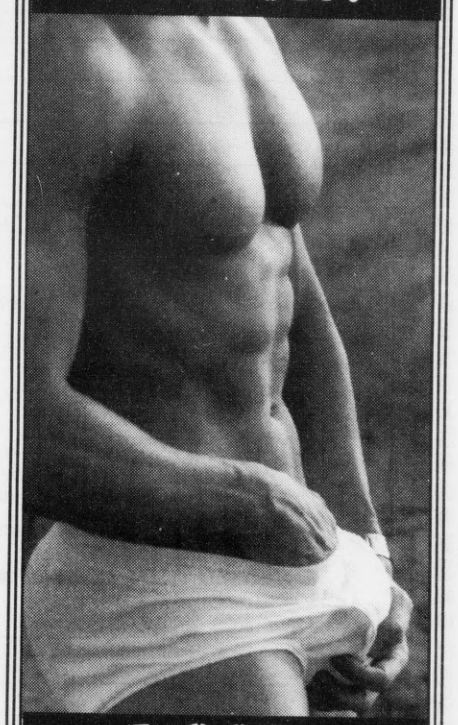
THE GAY CONNECTION™

MANFINDER™



MEET LOCAL GUYS IN THE BAY AREA
1-900-740-GUYS 4897
ADULTS ONLY $1.99/MIN.
CUSTOMER SERVICE: 415-281-3183

READY FOR ACTION?



1-900-HOT-4MEN EXT. 69
468-4636
ADULTS ONLY $1.99/MIN.
CUSTOMER SERVICE: 415-281-3183

ing, great sense of playfulness, wit and humor, 6 feet, 150 lbs., slender, non-gym build, very bright, cultured, dark romantic eyes, s&p hair, healthy HIVer. My kinda guy is able to feel and express his feelings as opposed to shut down, cold or non-exp-ressive; easygoing and spontaneous as opposed to rigid and controlling; bright, deep and humorous as opposed to dull, confused or superficial. I'm attracted to guys with moustaches, probably over 40, but open to others. I would cherish a deep-souled person to go with me through these difficult times we face. I value commitment, openness, celebration of the joy of living, and nurturing the reality of the spirit within us. Call ★★2998.

Hey, Read This!

I used to think ads were for people who couldn't get a date any other way. Now I'm trying one out of frustration with the usual options. GWM, 30, 6', friendly, playful, fiery, masculine, confident, cleanshaven, very very handsome, in muscular tight shape. That's the initial package; now some random tantalizing bits: I find life astonishing, hilarious, often moving, and I reflect on it alot. I'm cheerfully pessimistic about the world, deeply hopeful about individuals. I abhor cliches (except when in love; then I verge on corniness). I'm comfortable with my needy/dark parts—if that mystifies you, you haven't found yours yet. I'm a loyal friend and I don't lie. Wanna know more? Please be 28ish-33ish, handsome, cleanshaven, warm, undistracted, sane, passionate, unafraid of commitments, NS/ND, a lover of food/wine, caring for your body. Wouldn't it be fun to date heatedly awhile before unzipping our pants? Call ★★2999.

Deep, Yet Gentle, Nurturing Massage Exchange

Do you have strong talented hands? Love to give and receive slow, deep, healing, full-body massages? Spiritual and easygoing? Have your own warm place to set up my massage table? Trim, tight-bodied and health-conscious? If so, this tall, slim, muscular (work out regularly), handsome, bearded, sensual, semi-hairy, playful, very sensitive, spiritual (practice Yoga and meditate daily) CMT wants to meet you. Berkeley/SF. Call ★★3000.

Looking For Sex And Romance

My wish list—You: dark moustache and hair, average to well-hung, with sensitive tits, firm body, nice ass. I like affection, cuddling, worshipping yours or being serviced. I get off worshipping a nice one in my mouth or sitting on a hard one. Me: 52, 6 feet, slender, 150#, s/p hair, dark moustache and eyes, nice tool, big balls, nice ass. Seeking good sex, even romance, with a healthy fellow HIVer. Call ★★3001.

Perky Punky

Unaffected oily boys with horn rims just turn me on! But I'm definitely not going to limit myself to something so esoteric. I also can't fucking label or define myself within the confines of this ad, so if you aren't a poophead, call me, man. Call ★★3002.

Relationship-Oriented

Fun, crazy, yet responsible 50-yr-old Euro-Asian man, HIV+, seeking cleanshaven, warm, honest, sensitive, working man who likes dining out, performing arts, music & travel. Call so we can meet. Call ★★3003.

We Won't Rest Until You Are Satisfied Socially

Next Deadline for All Ads: Dec. 23 for Dec. 30

How To Respond to a "Call Star" Personal Ad

CALL 1-900-844-2-GAY. Using a Touch-Tone phone, you can reply to any ad that has "Call ★★" with a Call Star Extension number. This is your chance to hear the advertiser's voice! Call their extension and leave a personalized message, or see if this sounds like an advertiser you'd like to write to. It's almost as easy as leaving a message on a friend's answering machine. And the advertiser gets your message immediately.

FOLLOW THE EASY INSTRUCTIONS when you call. You can either enter the Call Star Extension of a specific ad that interests you, or you can browse through a variety of greetings and respond to any or all of them. Select the ads you wish to leave messages for and record your responses. Be sure to include your telephone number and the best times to call. Calls cost 96 cents per minute and will appear on your monthly telephone bill.

How To Get a "Call Star" Voice Mail Box

IT'S SIMPLE AND FREE!! You'll automatically get a free voice mail box with your personal ad unless you check the box below. You'll receive a letter from us with your Call Star extension and your secret password, as well as detailed instructions on how to use the system. Remember: recording your greeting and retrieving your messages are **FREE.**

How To Reply by Mail to a SF Bay Times Personal Ad

SEND IN YOUR LETTERS: If the advertiser has a BT Reply Box, send your reply to Bay Times Personals, 288 7th Street, SF 94103. In the lower left hand corner of the envelope place the box number (not the Call Star Extension!) you are answering. Mail boxes remain open for two months; i.e. this issue's ads may be answered through February 16. Voice mail boxes remain open for four weeks.

How To Pick Up Your Written Replies

BT REPLY BOX MAIL PICK-UP: You may pick up your mail Monday through Friday from 1-6pm. If you do not have your own P.O. Box, you must get a BT mail box. Feel free to call us during the regular pick-up hours to find out if you have mail, and please limit your calls to these hours! *You must bring picture I.D. to pick up your mail at the office.*

MAIL BOXES REMAIN ACTIVE FOR 2 MONTHS
VOICE MAIL BOXES REMAIN ACTIVE FOR FOUR WEEKS
MAIL WILL BE FORWARDED WEEKLY

QUESTIONS? Call the SF Bay Times office at (415) 626-8121 and ask for Greta.

SUGGESTED AD CATEGORY (Check One): ☐ Women ☐ Men ☐ Bisexual ☐ Trans ☐ Shared Interests ☐ Crossed Paths

HEADLINE: _____

TEXT: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____ ☐ Reply Bay Times Mail Box

Total # of Words: _____

☐ Enclose $10 up to 70 words $10.00

☐ Enclose 15 cents per word **over** 70 words:

____ words × 15 cents equals . . . . . ____

☐ Enclose $7 for Reply Mail Box . . . . . ____

☐ Enclose $11 for Reply Mail Box and Mail Forwarding . . . . . ____

COST OF ONE INSERTION . . . . . ____

____ Number of insertions:
Multiply by cost of one insertion for total cost of ad . . . . . ____

Discount for 3 or more insertions: subtract 10% of total cost of ad . . . ____

ENCLOSED TOTAL COST OF AD, INCLUDING ANY DISCOUNTS: $____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone (weekdays) _____ **(eves)** _____

☐ Check here if it's OK to leave a message on your answering machine if we need to contact you

☐ Check here if you do NOT want a free voice mail box

You may stop by the office at the below address to fill out a coupon. **We cannot take personals by phone, nor can we accept anonymous ads. All information will be kept confidential.**

Mail Coupon To:
SF Bay Times Personals
288 7th Street, SF, CA 94103

NEXT DEADLINE: THURSDAY, DEC. 23

WORD COUNTS/PRICE INFO: 'A,' 'and,' 'the,' zip codes, PO Boxes, etc. should all be included in your word counts. There are no refunds for ads. If there is an error in your ad which substantially affects the value of the ad, we will issue you a credit to rerun the ad. If you have submitted an ad which does not fall within our editorial guidelines and we are unable to notify you, we will issue a credit to run a different ad.

ADVERTISING GUIDELINES In placing an ad, you must not use names, telephone numbers or street addresses. The San Francisco Bay Times hopes that you will submit ad copy in keeping with our general editorial policies. Ads should stress those qualities the advertiser finds compatible rather than target specific lifestyles, races or other aspects in a negative manner. We understand the difference between discrimination and personal preference. If your ad does not fall within the realm of our guidelines, we may notify you and allow you to make the necessary alterations. We reserve the right to edit ads. We reserve the right to reject any ad,whatsoever.

Remember: speech isn't as free on the telephone as it is in the newspaper. Government regulations forbid the "F-word" recorded on phone lines and other such direct communication. Have fun but be sensible.

Bear Wanted Under Xmas Tree

Attractive bearded lumberjack type WM, 6', 200 lbs., 31-yr-old, HIV-, looking to meet sincere, honest, working men. Prefer husky to large, 28-45, race unimportant. Let's talk. Call ★★3004.

Mayan Madness

We've climbed the Pyramid of the Magician; sweaty and exhausted, we stare out over the steamy, silent Yucatan jungle, then at each other. The touch and scent of our embrace is sensual. Looking for a buddy, lean, 40-50 years old, graying hair, moustache (definitely), hairy (preferably), smart, gentle, HIV-, NS. Your fellow GW adventurer is 37, athletic, dark hair and moustache, professional, gentle disposition, HIV-, and likes to venture into new worlds—cultural, spiritual and physical. Call ★★3005.

In Search Of...

New opportunities, including possible LTR and the dating that might lead to it. Soon I'll know if life begins at 40. I'll continue with what's been great: workouts, healthy food, dancing, safe sex, humor, creativity, intimacy. I'm 5'9", 180, with broad shoulders, beefy muscles, hairy, bald, bearded, blue eyes, glasses. Like me, you're quick to laugh, slow to judge, honest, open, happy and work to stay in good shape. Let's explore contact and communication. Send holiday wish list, resolutions, photo to: PO Box 14591, SF 94114 or call ★★3006.

Pressure-Free Sex

Pressure to perform is a great way to ruin sex. So I'm looking for men who enjoy exploring another man's body slowly and sensually and, if we get off, that's nice, too. I'm GWM, 31, 5'8", 150 lbs., br/bl, furry chest, nice proportions but not a bodybuilder. I'm attracted to guys who, like myself, look 20s or younger, are cute, intelligent, warm and open to intimacy, nonsmoking, HIV-, on the masculine side, and have given thought to how they're spending their lives. Call ★★3007.

Just Moved To San Francisco...

... To start on a new documentary film project. I enjoy Esperanto cuisine with a good bottle of Chianti (sounds eclectic, but aren't we all?). Open to any type of relationship—be it the MTV-attention-span variety or the emotional involvement of Wagner's Ring Cycle. I am a 30-year-old Asian, 5'5", 140 lbs. Please be 27-37 yrs. old, healthy and intelligent. Call ★★3008.

C'est Blond

Sweet 'n sassy gay boy, 27, giddy manic depressive seeks sexy volunteer for my new hobby: knife-throwing. Other interests include cow tipping, shopping on valium and writing personal ads at work. Call ★★3009.

Boys In Boots

Wiry, mohawked malcotent, a disgrace to my race, seeks punks & bad boys to skank with, bite on, slam against walls, etc. I'm sleazy, fun & versatile & you should be too. (I was at No Means No/Victim's Family. Were you?) Call ★★3010.

I'm 23, Shy To A Point

Kinda serious and need help laughing at myself. I look conservative in my corporate drag, but underneath beats a queer heart. My interests include cooking, reading (Samuel R. Delany, Elizabeth Bishop, Henry James, bell hooks), talking, hanging out. I'm looking for friends and maybe more. Call ★★3011.

Sino/Filipino Sought

Sanctimonious semi-senescent sinner seeks sensually smooth skin & spherical surfaces susceptible to secretive sexual slurping. What all this means? Call/write for further details. Reply BT Box DC123B or call ★★3012.

Monogamous LTR Including Spanking

Yes, I fantasize spanking a weight-proportional, not-very-hairy HIV- "son," any race, under 40, including humiliating, undressing and positioning, and including cuddling and cumming together. I also want love, commitment, culture, spiritual values, music, enjoying city/outdoors. I'm mid-40s, GWM, good-looking, bearded, balding. Please be self-supporting, reliable, "out," available. Include your phone number. R.M., PO Box 8031, Berkeley 94707 or call ★★3013.

Guys—Sex—Videos

Goal: sex buddies, playmates, intimacy, male bonding through mutual sexual pleasures and fun experiences. Me: attractive, mature, 40ish appearance, GWM, 6', 175#, good body, tanned, gray/blond/military cut hair, pecs pierced, great cock, hot mouth/tongue for full body exploration, moustache, good kisser, very sexual, honest, sensuous, touch oriented, adventurous exhibitionist, Blow Buddies regular, oral connoisseur with an insatiable appetite to fully service cocks. HIV- (play safe, status irrelevant), enjoy wine, a beer, "poppers" and an occasional joint. You: GWM, 35+, "oral (getting great head) fixated," good looks, maintained body and appearance, "endowed," "masculine." Enjoy kissing, man-to-man touching, massage? Have a very hot erotic apt., sexually graphic male art work, and extensive porno library in Van Ness corridor of the City. Wipe-outs: misrepresentation, colognes, unclean. Well-hung, in-shape, butch only, please. If you fit the general outline above, "What have you got to lose but your load?" Call ★★3014.

Seek Heartful GAM/GWM

I'm GWM, East Bay teacher, 44, 5'11", 170, bearded, thinning black hair, handsome. I play piano, love nature walks, cultural events, exploring SF and elsewhere. I value spirit/heart over status/money. Seek weight proportional, not-too-hairy GAM, 25-45, or GWM, 25-35, who's reliable, communicative, monogamy-oriented, HIV-, "out." "Just friends," dating, relationship all fine. Please describe yourself, include your phone #. PO Box 8031, Berkeley 94707 or call ★★3015.

free personal ads!

Get a Date for the Holidays... New Year's Eve... or the Rest of Your Life.

Just fill out the coupon on page 66
and return it to us by Dec. 23.
Your ad will appear in an upcoming issue.

If you ad is longer than 70 words, please include the extra 15 cents for each word over 70 words. If you want a *Bay Times* Mail Reply Box as well as voice mail, please add the additional $7 (to pick up your mail in our office) or $11 (for weekly mail forwarding), as printed on the coupon.

This is the famous Budweiser beer. We
no way other brewer which costs so much to
exclusive Beechwood Aging produces a taste, a
and a drinkability you will find in no other beer at
THE WORLD
RENOWNED
AMERICA
Budwe
KING OF
Brewed by our orig
Choicest Hops, Rice

PROUD TO BE YOUR BUD.®

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